report is correct. *(Interruptions).* When I say, 'continuously increasing there may be decline also. *(Interruptions).* Everybody knows the reasons for the decline as well as the increase. We compile reports on the basis of whatever information, statistics, we receive. Hon. Members also know about the decline and the increase in the rate of savings. It is a larger question. *(Interruptions).*

AN HON. MEMBER: Mr. Minister, we are not able to understand what you are saying.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: My question was very specific. Is it not a fact.... *(Interruptions).*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I pass on Shri Jagmohan to Question No. 196. Shri Jagmohan.

*196. [The Questioner was absent. For answer vide *col.* ..... infra.]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 197.

*197. [The Questioner (Shri Suresh Pachouri) was absent. For answer *vide* col ..... infra.]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 198.

Irregular Trading in Special Import Licences

*198. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:J.
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report published in the Observer of 30 January, 199S under the caption, "Cartels making fast buck in SIL trade";

(b) if so, what are the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that majority of special import licences are in the custody of a handful of persons who have an easy access to the Ministry officials;

(d) if so, how many cases of irregular trading in special import licences have come to the notice of Government and what action has been taken in each of these cases; and

(e) what remedial step-. Government have taken or propose to take to put an end , to such an irregular trading in special import licences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Special Import Licences, which are granted to specified categories of exporters, are freely transferable and tradeable in the market, at a premimum determined by the market forces and Government does not exercise any control over the determination of premium.

SHRI VIREN J, SHAH: Sir, if you look at the question, it reads, "Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state: (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report published in ' the Observer of 30 January, 1995 under the caption, "Cartels making fast buck in SIL trade";". That means, there are some allegations made and the question is whether the Government is aware of them. In reply to parts (a) to (e) of the question, the answer given is that Special Import Licences are freely transferable and tradeable in the market at a premium determined by the market forces. Mr. Chairman, I would request the hon. Minister to say, in reply to parts (a) and (b) of the question, whether any such allegations have been made, what he read in newspapers and whether there is any truth in them. If the hon. Minister says that there is no truth in them, there is no need to proceed further.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I

*The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Viren J. Shah

have to leave some part of the answer for supplementary questions. Particularly, I have great regard for my friend, Mr. Shah. These SILs are freely tradeable. They can be bought and sold. Where is the illegality in freely trading any SIL? There can be no illegality or irregularity in a freely tradeable instrument.

The other part of the question is whether it is true that it is in connivance with some officials of the Ministry that these alleged irregularities take place. As I said, when SILs are freely tradeable, there is no scope for any connivance either. Now, does the SIL list get enlarged? I believe that there must be greater transparency and greater opnness about adding items to the shopping list. These are not matters of secret, when we add a couple of items to the shopping list. If we add some items to the shopping list now, it will be known tomorrow, if not today. If we add some items to the shopping list, it may not be know today, but it will be known by the end of the month. I do not think there is any great advantage if someone knows it a few hours earlier or a few hours later. The people who hold SILs are established exporters. And I am sure that my hon. friend knows what established exporters are.

They will not pass the SIL licences unless there is an advantage in selling a SIL licence on a particular day. There is absolutely no truth that there is any irregularity in the trade of SIL licences. These are freely tradable and there is no irregularity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over. Today we have almost completed the questions.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTION

Hospitals for Beddi Workers in Andhra Pradesh

*181. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are only three hospitals for beedi workers all over the country;

(b) where are these three hospitals located;

(c) whether Government will construct a separate hospital in Andhra Pradesh for beedi workers;

(d) whether it is a fact that Labour Ministry is paying less attention to welfare of beedi workers in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) steps proposed to extend welfare schemes and insurance to beedi workers in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (e) At present there are three hospitals located in Gursahaiganj (UP), Karma (Bihar) and Mysore (Karnataka) for the benefit of Beedi workers.

It has been decided to set up a 50-Bedded hospital by E.S.I.C, at Nizamabad which has a maximum concentration of beedi workers in Andhra Pradesh.

Labour Ministry does pay a high degree of attention for the welfare of beedi workers in Andhra Pradesh.

Various facilities under the welfare schemes for beedi workers relating to housing, health, education, recreation and Group Insurance are already being extended to beedi workers in all the States including in Andhra Pradesh.

कोयला क्षेत्र में बेकार मशीनों का बेचा जाना

*182. **श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव:** क्या कोयला मंत्री 9 अगस्त, 1993 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न सं० 1793 के दिए गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) विभिन्न कोयला कंपनियों द्वारा कितनी बेकार मशीनों को वर्ष 1993-94 तथा 1994-95 में बेचा गया और ऐसी कितनी मशीनें शेष पड़ी हैं;

(ख) इस अवधि के दौरान ऐसी मशीनों की बिक्री से प्रत्येक कंपनी को कितनी राशि प्राप्त हुई; और

(ग) इस अवधि के दौरान खरीदी गई नई मशीनों को उपयोग में न लाने के क्या कारण हैं?

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजीत कुमार पांजा): (क) वर्ष 1993-94 में बेकार घोषित की गई 267 मशीनों में से 19 मशीनों का 1993-94 के दौरान निपटारा (बेचा) गया था और 1994-95 में (फरवरी, 1995 तक) 36 मशीनों को बेच दिया गया है। शेष 212 मशीनें बिक्री किए जाने की प्रक्रिया के अधीन हैं।

(ख) वर्ष 1993-94 में तथा वर्ष 1994-95 (फरवरी, 1995 तक) बेकार मशीनों की बिक्री किए जाने के लिए कोल इंडिया लि० की सहायक कंपनियों द्वारा अर्जित की गई राशि नीचे दर्शायी गई है:—

कंपनी	अर्जित राशि (लाख रुपए में)		
	1993-94	1994-95	जोड़
ई० को लि०	8.18	—	8.18
धा० को० को० लि०	—	—	—
से० को० लि०	10.15	10.80	20.95
वे० को० लि०	—	11.72	11.72
सा० ई० को० लि०	16.50	12.64	29.14
क० को० लि०	—	—	—
मा० को० लि०	—	—	—
जोड़:	34.83	35.16	69.99

(ग) वर्ष 1993-94 तथा 1994-95 के दौरान खरीद की गई मशीनों को कोल इंडिया लि० की विभिन्न सहायक कंपनियों द्वारा प्रयोग में लाया जा रहा है। अतः नई मशीनों को उपयोग में न लाए जाने का प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता है।

Review of Grain Procurement Policy

*183. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Grain Procurement policy under review' which appeared in the Economic Times of 18th January, 1995;

(b) if so, what decision has been or is being taken in this regard by when the new policy is likely to be announced and implemented; and

(c) what are the salient features and rationale of the new policy?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There is no change in the existing foodgrains procurement policy.

उद्योगों के बन्द होने की स्थिति में कर्मकारों को दी जाने वाली क्षतिपूर्ति को बढ़ाया जाना

*184. **चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह:**
श्री आस मोहम्मद:

क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि राज्य श्रम मंत्रियों ने उद्योगों के बन्द होने की स्थिति में श्रमिकों को दी जाने वाली क्षतिपूर्ति को 15 दिन की मजदूरी से बढ़ाकर 45 दिन की मजदूरी करने का अनुमोदन किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने राज्य श्रम मंत्रियों के अनुमोदन को स्वीकार कर लिया है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो यह कब तक लागू किया जायेगा?

श्रम मंत्री (श्री पी० ए० संगमा): (क) से (ग) 6.2.92 को आयोजित राज्यों के श्रम मंत्रियों के 40 वें सम्मेलन में श्री जी० रामनुजम को अध्यक्षता वाली नए औद्योगिक संबंध विधान संबंधी द्विपक्षीय समिति की सिफारिशों पर और विचार करने के लिए श्रम राज्य मंत्री की अध्यक्षता में 5 राज्यों के श्रम मंत्रियों के एक ग्रुप का गठन करने का निर्णय लिया गया था। श्रम मंत्रियों के ग्रुप ने, अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ, सर्वसम्मति से यह सिफारिश करने का निर्णय लिया कि कर्मकारों के लिए

छंटनी संबंधी क्षतिपूर्ति को बंदी के मामले में निरन्तर सेवा के पूरे किए गए प्रत्येक वर्ष के लिए 15 से बढ़ाकर 45 दिन कर दिया जाए।

रामस्वामन समिति द्वारा की गयी सिफारिशों और विभिन्न मंचों पर हुए विचार-विमर्शों के आधार पर, तथा औद्योगिक पुनर्संरचना संबंधी अंतर-मंत्रालयीन ग्रुप की सिफारिशों को ध्यान में रखने के पश्चात् श्रम मंत्रालय द्वारा औद्योगिक विवाद अधिनियम में संशोधन किये जाने संबंधी प्रस्ताव प्रारूपित किए गए हैं।

Treating employment of child labour in hazardous industries as cognizable offence

185. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Authority on Elimination of Child Labour has suggested treating employment of child labour in hazardous industries a cognizable offence and giving special powers to executive magistrates to summarily dispose of such cases;

(b) whether the said Authority has also suggested that launching of prosecutions against employers of child labour should be made a precondition for taking up rehabilitation of the concerned children and their families;

(c) if so, what are the details of the recommendations made by the said Authority and how do Government propose to implement each of these recommendations;

(d) what measures are proposed to be adopted by Government for the sustained livelihood and rehabilitation of the concerned children and their families; and

(c) want is the number of child labour at present employed in each hazardous industry?

THE MINISTER LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) The National Authouity on Elimination of Child Labour has suggested that employment of child labour should be made congnizable offence under the relevent Acts and Executive Magistrates should be specially empowered to dispose of cases pertaining to employment of child labour in a summary manner. The Authority has also suggested that prosecutions should be launched against the offending employers as a precondition before taking up rehabilitation work.

(c) and (d) A summary of recommendation/observations made by the Authority including on measures to provide sustained livelihood and rehabilitation of the children and their families is attached as statement *(See* below)

(e) Scperate industry-wise date on the number of child labour engaged in hazardous employments is not maintained.

Statement

CIRCULAR ON "IDENTIFICATION, RELEASE AND REHABILITATION OF CHILD LABOUR"

Summary of recommendations

1. Prohibition of employment of children under 14 Years of age is the essence of various legislative provisions. This central objective has been reinforced further in Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 according to which children under 14 Years of age are not permitted to work in certain hazardous occupations as also in occupations defined and notified as "Hazardous Process" and "dangerous operation" under the Factories Act, 1948.

2. A survey should be conducted under the overall supervision of the District Magistrate in a time bound manner, to identify child labour, the nature of vacations and occupations in which they are employed and also the familes to which they belong.

3. Inspections and investigations must be intensified.

4. The district, block and villase level

Department and other Executive Magistrates should also be authorised to conduct inspections and empowered to .enforce the provisions under varioui laws.

5. The employment of child labour should be made a congnisable offence under the relevant acts and Excutivc Magistrates should be specially empowered to dispose the cases pertaining to employment of child labour in a summary manner under all these Acts.

6. Launching of prosecutions on employers of child labour should be a precondition for taking up of rehabilitation of the concerned children and the economic rehabilitation of their families.

7. A Standing Committee of officers under the Chairmanship of the District magistrate in districts having child labour problem shall pecriodically (at least once in a quarter) review the problem of child labour in the district, organise the survey and define the responsibility of the concerned officers in regard to supervision, inspection and strict enforcement of the legislative provisions. This committee would be in overall charge of identification, release and rehabilitation of child labour and coordination of all programmes relevant to education, economic,, rehabilitation and convergence of programme to families of child labour.

8. To ensure that the child is not an economic burden to the family, there will be a need for schools, hostels and other' institutions Wherein these children could be admitted and their iequirement of food, clothing, books, medical care, etc. could be met.

9. Only such schools which can provide the children with boarding and lodging facilities, support for their education and skill development and am provide a measure of care and solicitude should be selected for this purpose.

10. Various Central and State Sector Progrcmmes like National Child Labour Project, District Primary Education Project, Nonformal Education, social welfare hostels, Ashram schools etc., should be geared to meet the requirements of educational and psychological needs of the child labourers.

11. Special support will be provided by the "Labour Ministry" for this type of educational and psychological rehabilitation of the child labourer in the districts with concentration of child labour by expanding their activities under the programme of National Child Labour Project.

12. The best method of eliminating child labour is to ensure that these families are enabled to have access to adequate opportunities for livelihood and to improve the quality of their life. In order to provide sustained livelihood to such families, the Ministry of Rural Development have agreed to provide to these families on priority basis the following benefits:—

(t) Assured employment for two adult members in the family for 100 days each in a year under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY).

(ii) In the matter of allotment of house sites and allotment of Indira Awass Yojana (IAY) houses, the child labour's family will be accorded a very high priority alongwith SCs/STs and families of freed bonded labourers.

(iii) In addition to the above mentioned benefits, these familes will be provided assistance under IRDP as per the provisions of the revised IRDP mannual with adequate investment for self-employment ventures in land based or related traditional occupations. This is to enable these families to earn a minimum incremental income of Rs. 500CK—to Rs. 7000/-per year. Necessary linkages like training for skill improvement, supply of raw material and marketing facilities for products

shall be made available to all the beneficiaries under IRDP by DRDA.

13. There are several Government programme in the social sector. Ministries/Departments of Women and Child Developments Health & Family Welfare; Social Welfare and Education, all of which have relevance to the rehabilitiation of child labour and prevention of recurrence of child labour phenamenon. The concerned departmental officials shall inform this Standing Committee of suitable projects and surveys rclevent to the alimination of child labour. A special Standing Committee of the Zilla Parishads should be entrusted with the responsibility to coordinate all these programmes with the primary objectives of eliminating child labour.

14. In order to ensure that various programmes relating to elimination of child labour are implemented without any delay at the district level, funds from Government of India and the State Governments concerned with these programmes may be made available directly to the Zilla Parishads.

15. The Standing committee of Zilla Parishads co coordinate and take up the farmulation of coordinated plans and the schemes for the benefit of child labourers.

16. The Standing Committee of officials referred to under para 7 above shall also submit a periodical review of the child labour situation in the district to the Standing Committee of Zilla Parishads.

Rate of saving in India

*186. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the special feature captioned 'Savings in India, whom to believe: CSO or RBI' which appeared in the Times of India, New Delhi dated the 22nd February, 1995;

(h) if so, what are the reasons for variation in savings estimates done by two official agencies; and

(c) what is the actual rale of savings in India at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The variation in the estimates of savings prepared by the CSO and the RBI is essentially due to different tunings of such estimation by the two organisations.

(c) The rate of Gross Domestic Saving for 1993-94 is estimated at 20.2%.

Production and Export of Tea

*187. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated production of tea in the calendar year 1995 and how much is expected to be sold in the domestic market and how much quantity is expected to be exported;

(b) whether Government intend to export tea to Pakistan; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the tea industry is hit by falling exports and low home prices; if so, what steps Government have taken to avert any crisis in the Industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):

(a) Target for production and exports of tea for the year 1995-96 have been fixed at 780 million kgs and 210 million kgs respectively. Domestic demand for tea during the year 1995 is estimated at 600 million kgs.

*†the Question was actually asked oil the floor of tile House by Shri Viren J. Shah

(b) Indian tea is being exported to Pakistan also. During 1994 shipment licences for export of 1.41 million kgs of tea to Pakistan have been issued by the Tea Board.

(c) Higher production of tea during the current year coupled with lower intake of Indian tea by major importing countries like Russia and Iran has resulted in prices of teas ruling easy at the auctions. In order to step up exports of India tea to Russia an agreement has been signed with the Russian Government which inter-alia provides for import of tea under the debt repayment mechanism. A suitable module has also been approved by the Government for promotional strategics to be undertaken in Russia and other CIS countries by the Tea Board in consultation with the tea industry. Iranian authorities have also been requested to facilitate opening of LCs for exports of Indian tea in respect of contracts signed by Indian exporters with the Iranian buying agency. Other steps taken to boost exports of tea through Tea Board's offices abroad inter-alia include (i) participation in trade fairs/exhibitaion (ii) media campaigns to increase consumer awareness and popularies Indian tea through the Tea Board marketing symbol (iii) support to various foreign brands containing Indian tea and (iv) Darjccling and Assam Logo promotion schemes to popularies classic Indian teas.

Subsidised Rice to consumers in Andhra Pradesh

†188. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sought the Central assistance for implementation of the scheme to give rice at Rs.2/-per kg. to the ration card holders whose annual income is less than Rs. 6000—; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has reported that they are providing up to 25 kgs of rice per month at the rate of Rs. 2 per kg. to every household identified as poor by the State Government. The State Government has estimated an expenditure of Rs. 1265/-crorcs in 1995-96 for this scheme. The State Government has requested the Central Government for a grant to cover this expenditure. Central Government makes available foodrains for the Public Distribution system to all States/UTs including Andhra Pradesh at uniform Central Issue Prices on which the Central Government incures subsidy. There is no proposal to give additional grants or subsidy to any State/UT for this purpose.

Dues Under ESI and PF acta

*189. SHRI: JIBON ROY:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any legal impediment under Section 22 of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 to recover legal dues under ESI & PF Acts from the defaulting industrial companies;

(b) if so, what action is being contemplated by Government to amend Section 22(6) of the SICA to avoid harassment to the workers who are being denied of their legal dues from defaulting employers;

(c) whether it is a fact that as on 31st March, 1994 the arrears of ESI

†The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Viren J. Shah

contributions only was about Rs. 40 crores from factories which were registered with BIFR; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken by Government to recover the arrears from the defaulting companies?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no sub-section (6) under Section 22 of the SICA. As such the question of making any amendment in the sub-section does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Necessary legal and penal action is being taken to recover the arrears outstanding against the defaulting companies not registered with the BIFR.

Census of Beedi and Tobacco workers in Karnataka

*190. SHRI GUNDAPPA KORWAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted a census of beedi workers and tobacco workers in Karnataka;

(b) to what extent welfare measures have been effective for them;

(c) whether a safety net against unemployment is to be created for them in Karnataka; and

(d) the steps proposed to be undertaken to encourage adequate production environment for beedi and tobacco sector?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) According to the information furnished by the State Government and the Welfare Commissioner, Bangalore, the number of beedi workers in the State of Karnataka is estimated at 3.55 lakhs. According to 1981 census, the number of beedi workers in the State of Karnataka was 2,53,898. Data based 1991 census concerning beedi workers is not yet available.

Lists of welfare schemes .being implemented for beedi workers and the number of beneficiaries in the State of Karnataka during the last 3 years are attached as Statement-I&II (See below) Several steps have been taken to step up the tempo of welfare activities and to stream-line the working of the various welfare schemes for beedi workers. Highest priority is being given to schemes relating to housing, educational and health facilities for beedi workers. The quantum of financial assistance has been increased under different schemes and there is a substantial increase in the number of beneficiaries covered. The Tripartite Central Advisory Committee set up under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976 which met on 14.3.95 have appreciated the good work being done in recent years for the welfare of beedi workers and made several recommendations for further improvement. The Regional Conference of State Labour Ministers of Southern Region held in Trivandrum on 4th October, 1994, of Eastern and North Eastern Region held at Bhubaneswar on 29th and 30th September, 1994 and Central and Northern Region held at Jaipur on 25th October, 1994, took important decisions concerning the revision of minimum wages for beedi workers -and constitution of tripartite committee for standardisation of raw material etc. However, there is no proposal under consideration at present to create a safety net against unemployment for beedi workers in Karnataka as no serious or singificant threat of unemployment is envisaged now.

The Tobacco Board in the Ministry of Commerce are taking various steps to increase production of tobacco and export promotion of tobacco and tobacco products. According to the Ministry of Industry, all the benefits available to small scale industry are extended to beedi industry.

Statement-I

S.No, Name of the Scheme

Health

1. Static-cum-mobile/Static Allopathic and Static Ayurvedic dispensaries for Beedi Workers.
2. Scheme for Reservation of Beds in T.B. Hospitals for Beedi Workers.
3. Scheme for Domicilliary Treatment of Beedi Workers.
4. Scheme for Treatment of Beedi Workers suffering from Cancer.
5. Scheme for Treatment of Beedi Workers suffering from Mental Diseases.
6. Scheme for treatment of Beedi Workers (including Gharkhata Workers) suffering from Leprosy.
7. Grant of Financial Assistance to Beedi Workers for purchase of Spectacles.
8. Maternity Benefit Scheme for Female Beedi Workers.
9. Scheme for payment of Monetary Compensation for sterilisation to Beedi Workers.
10. Re-imbursement of expenditure as financial assistance to Beedi Workers in respect of Heart Diseases.
11. Re-imbursement of expenditure as financial assistance to Beedi Workers in respect of Kidney Transplantation.

Social Security Scheme

1. Group Insurance Scheme for Beedi Workers.

Housing

1. Build Your Own House Scheme for Beedi Workers.
2. Housing Scheme for Economically Weaker Sections of Beedi Workers.
3. Grant of subsidy to co-operative societies of Beedi Industry for construction of worksheds and godowns.
4. Group Housing Scheme for Beedi Workers.

Education 1. Award of Scholarship to the children of Beedi Workers including Gharkhata Beedi Workers.

2. Composite scheme for Financial Assistance to the School going children of Beedi Workers for supply of one set of dress and slates, note books, text books.

Recreation

1. Establishment of Audio Visual Sets/Cinema Vans/Exhibition of films.
2. Organising sports, games, social and cultural activities for Beedi Workers.
3. Holiday Home Scheme for Beedi Workers.
4. Supply of T.V. Sets to the Beedi Workers Industrial Co-operative Societies.

Statement-II

Number of beneficiaries and the amount spent under important Welfare Schemes for the beedi workers out of the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund in the State of Karnataka

Year	No. of beneficiaries	Amount incurred (in Lakhs)
(a) Purchase of Medicines for dispensaries/hospital:		
1992-93	4.32,725 (Patients treated)	13.84
1993-94	4.45.796 -do-	14.94
1994-95 (upto Feb.95)	4,37,406 -do-	21.15
(b) Education (Scholarships/uniforms etc.):		
1992-93	8281	22.54
1993-94	18929	66.11
1994-95 (upto 2/95)	27752	97.02
(c) Housing under E.W.S.		
1992-93	400 (houses)	23.20
1993-94	1305 (houses)	75.75

महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्रों का अपने ऋण संबंधी लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने में असफल रहना

*191. **श्री चिमनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल:** क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या दूरसंचार, रेलवे और विद्युत के महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्र लगातार दूसरे वर्ष अपने ऋण संबंधी लक्ष्यों को पूरा नहीं कर पाए हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान इस संबंध में कुल क्या लक्ष्य निर्धारित किए गए और प्राप्त किए गए;

(ग) क्या सरकार इन क्षेत्रों की सहायता के लिए कुछ उपाय करने का विचार रखती है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तसंबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री गिरिधर गमांग): (क) और (ख) 1993-94 तथा 1994-95 के लिए संशोधित अनुमानों के अनुसार दूर संचार तथा रेलवे के संबंध में योजना आयोग द्वारा निर्धारित ऋण लक्ष्यों की प्राप्ति में कोई कमी नहीं रही है। तथापि, विद्युत क्षेत्र में कमी रही है। 1992-93 से 1994-95 तक की अवधि के लिए बाण्डों तथा विदेशी वाणिज्यिक उधारों के संबंध में कुल लक्ष्य तथा उपलब्धि संलग्न विवरण में दी गई हैं (नीचे देखिए)

(ग) और (घ) विद्युत परियोजनाओं की दीर्घ परिपक्वता अवधि विद्युत के उत्पादन / वितरण की पूर्ण लागत वसूली में कठिनाइयों आदि के कारण उधारों के माध्यम से संशोधन उगाहने में विद्युत क्षेत्रक में सार्वजनिक क्षेत्रक उद्यमों की अंतर्निहित अक्षमता को ध्यान में रखते हुए अन्य साधनों के माध्यम से विद्युत क्षेत्रक में निवेश हेतु प्रयासों को गति देना आवश्यक हो गया है। इस लक्ष्य की प्राप्ति हेतु, सरकार ने एक नीति तैयार की है, ताकि विद्युत क्षेत्र में निजी उपक्रमों द्वारा निवेश को प्रोत्साहित किया जा सके। इस नीति की मुख्य विशेषताएं ये हैं: ऋण इक्विटी अनुपात 4:1 तक, विदेशी निजी निवेशों द्वारा स्थापित परियोजनाओं के लिए शत-प्रतिशत (100%) इक्विटी भागेदारी और विद्युत उपकरणों के आयात के लिए कम सीमा शुल्क आदि।

विवरण

विद्युत क्षेत्रक (नाभिकीय विद्युत निगम सहित) में 1992-93 से 1994-95 के लिए बाण्डों तथा विदेशी वाणिज्यिक उधारों के संबंध में कुल लक्ष्य तथा उपलब्धियां।

करोड़ रू० में)

	बाण्ड	विदेशी वाणिज्यिक उधार
1992-93		
बजट अनुमान	2204.40	1300.00
संशोधित अनुमान	2547.00	865.70
1993-94		
बजट अनुमान	2545.63	1500.00
संशोधित अनुमान	1885.00	615.03
1994-95		
बजट अनुमान	2801.00	1187.10
संशोधित अनुमान	1943.51	881.03

नोट: 1. बी ई का तात्पर्य है बजट अनुमान, जो लक्ष्यों को दर्शाता है, जबकि आर ई संशोधित अनुमान है, जो उपलब्धियों को दर्शाता है।
2. विपरीत पूंजी बाजार स्थितियों के कारण, वित्त मंत्रालय से प्राप्त बाण्डों (145 करोड़ रुपये) के माध्यम से उगाही गई राशि के आंकड़ों के अनुसार उपलब्धियां 1992-93 में बजट अनुमान तथा संशोधित अनुमान, दोनों की तुलना में बहुत कम रही है।

Formation of Asian Economic Community

*192. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at a national seminar on Globalisation held in New Delhi on December 21, 1994 an unanimous demand was made to strengthen the SAARC and for constitution of an Asian Economic Community with India as its leader to strengthen trade and economic ties; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction and decision with regard to formation of an Asian Economic Community?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Media reports about a seminar referred to by the

Hon'ble Members have come to the notice of the Government.

(b) The Government's policy approach is in general in favour of promoting regional economic cooperation. However, no proposal with regard to formation of an Asian Economic Community is presently under Government's consideration.

WTO's Effect on India's Food Production

*196. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's self-reliance in food production is likely to be undermined by coming into being of the World Trade Organisation;

(b) whether Government have guaranteed a minimum market access to imports of 6 million tonnes of foodgrains;

(c) whether under the World Trade Organisation foreign multinational companies arc likely to capture/ dominate the Indian seed market; and

(d) what measures are being considered to ensure that India's food security docs not develop a dependency syndrome?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Mandatory publication of MRP of Consumer Products alongwith their Advertisements

*197. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make the publication of maximum retail price or the approximate cost of a consumer product mandatory alongwith its advertisement in the print and electronic media to stop the fleecing of consumers by the retailers;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to safeguard the interest of the consumers so that they know the actual sale price of consumer items advertised?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c) Under the existing provisions of the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1976, if the retail price of a commodity in packaged form is stated in an advertisement, the net quantity or number of commodity contained in the package shall also have to be declared along with it.

Discussions regarding Economic and Trade Ties with Singapore

*199. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during his recent visit to Singapore the Commerce Minister had discussed various proposals for augmenting the economic and trade ties between the two countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the agreements/proposals signed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) There has been no visit by the Commerce Minister to Singapore during the recent past.

(b) Does not arise.

Dharna at Rajghat by Child Labourers

*200. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government arc aware that several child labourers, their parents and social activists sat on a dharna at Rajghat recently;

(b) if so, whether Government are also aware about their demands for which they staged dharna; and

(c) whether any decision has been taken with regard thereto, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) As per the information furnished by the Delhi Government, they have no knowledge about the Dharna at Raj Ghat by several child labourers, their parents and social activists. It has been further reported that no memorandum of demand has been submitted to the Delhi Government by the organisers of the said Dharna.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

सुपर बाजार द्वारा अर्जित लाभ

1944. श्री गोपाल सिंह जी० सोलंकी: क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सुपर बाजार में गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान वर्ष-वार लगातार शुद्ध लाभ अर्जित किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका वर्ष-वार ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या सुपर बाजार ने इस अवधि के दौरान अतिरिक्त पूंजी का निवेश किया है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ङ) क्या मार्च, 1991 के पश्चात् सुपर बाजार ने राजधानी में बिक्री की जाने वाली प्रत्येक वस्तु के मूल्य में वृद्धि की है;

(च) क्या सरकार ने राजधानी में वस्तुओं के लागत-मूल्य और की गई मूल्य-वृद्धि के संदर्भ में कोई मूल्यांकन किया है; और

(छ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) सुपर बाजार, दी कोऑपरेटिव स्टोर्स लि० का पिछले 3 वर्षों का निवल लाभ निम्नवत है:—

वर्ष	निवल लाभ
1991-92	9.33 लाख रुपए
1992-93	10.83 लाख रुपए
1993-94	41.64 लाख रुपए

(ग) और (घ) ऊपर उल्लिखित अवधि के दौरान, सुपर बाजार ने शेयर पूंजी का उपयोग/निवेश व्यापारिक गतिविधियों, बहुविभागी भण्डार और नई शाखाएं खोलने तथा मौजूदा शाखाओं के नवीकरण के लिए किया है।

(ङ) जी, हां।

(च) और (छ) सुपर बाजार द्वारा बेची जाने वाली वस्तुओं की दरों में संशोधन करना एक सामान्य व्यापारिक पद्धति है। यह संशोधन समय-समय पर, वसूली लागत में संशोधन होने, शुल्क/कर/लेवी में परिवर्तन होने के फलस्वरूप तथा साथ ही मूल्यों को सर्वाधिक प्रतिस्पर्धा और अधिकतम खुदरा मूल्य के भीतर रखते हुए कीमत लागत अन्तर में संशोधन के कारण किया जाता है। यह मंत्रालय समय-समय पर सुपर बाजार की समीक्षा करता है और सुपर बाजार की प्रबंध समिति भी व्यापारिक कार्यों की नियमित रूप से समीक्षा करती है।

Pay Scaks of Sales Assistants In Super Bazar

1945. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the matter pertaining to the revision of pay scales of Sales Assistants working in the Super Bazar has been referred to the Board of Arbitration of Labour Ministry where it

is pending;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how much time the Board of Arbitration is expected to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No, Sir. (b) and (c) Docs not arise.

Public Distribution System

1946. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Public Distribution System was evolved mainly to insulate the poor against rise of prices of essential commodities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that today all income groups, both rich and poor enjoy the subsidies provided on items such as foodgrains, sugar edible oils and kerosene and as a result thereof, the persons below poverty line have to suffer a lot;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to eliminate the higher income group people from the benefits of Public Distribution System and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (d) The Public Distribution System has evolved from being a "rationing" system for the distribution of scarce commodities to a fair price" system for moderating open market prices and for facilitating food security at the household level. As per the present policy of the Central Government coverage of PDS is universal in nature. However, in order to improve the reach of the PDS to the chronical!) food deficit regions of the country where a large number of the population below the poverty line live, the Central Government is issuing foodgrains meant for distribution in areas identified under the Revamped Public Distribution System at specially subsidised prices which are Rs. 50 per quintal lower than the Central Issue Prices for normal PDS areas. Operational responsibility for implementation of the Public Distribution System including determination of the eligibility criteria, scales of entitlement, etc. rest with the State Governments. Some State Governments have excluded certain affluent categories of consumers from the supply of PDS foodgrains. Some other State Governments have system of issuing foodgrains at specially subsidised prices to the poor households identified by them. A Committee of Ministers constituted by the Advisory Council on PDS to formulate recommendations on a National Policy on PDS has recommended that it is imperative that certain affluent categories of persons are excluded from access to PDS foodgrains in order to ensure larger and more meaningful quantities of foodgrains to the really needy and deserving sections of the society. The Advisory Council on PDS which considered the Report of the Committee of Ministers decided that the matter would need to be discussea further with the State Governments through the forum of the National Development Council.

Policy to ensure PDS supplies reaching target population

1947. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised a "foolproof policy" to ensure that foodgrains and other essential commodities covered under PDS reach the target population at reasonable prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how Government propose to implement the policy?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c) The strengthening and streamlining of the Public Distribution system is a continual process. Blocks covered under area specific programmes such as Desert Development Programme (DDP), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), Designated Hill Area (DHA) and Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDP) were identified, in consultation with the State Governments' UT Administrations, for special focus under the Scheme for Revamped PDS. The Revamped Public Distribution System scheme was launched on 1st January, 1992. Under this scheme, State Governments/UT Administrations agreed to" improve the availability of PDS commodities, especially foodgrains, to the population living in these blocks, which presently number 1775.

The Central Government issues foodgrains meant for distribution in RPDS areas at specially subsidised Central Issue prices which arc lower than the normal Central Issue Prices for PDS by Rs. 50 per qunital. Central Government has also advised the State Governments/UT Administrations that the end RetaikPriccs of foodgrains in the RPDS areas should not exceed the Central Issue prices by more than 25 paise per kilogram. The Central Government has earmarked an additional 3,2 million tonne's of foodgrains, over and above the normal allocation, for distribution by the StatcsvUTs to the RPDS areas. The Central Government also provides financial assistance to State/UTs for construction of godowns and purchase of vans in order to strengthen their storage and distribution infrastructure.

उचित मूल्य की दुकानों में उपलब्ध कराई जाने वाली वस्तुएं

1948. श्री जगन्नाथ सिंह: क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) उचित मूल्य की दुकानों में कौन-कौन से खाद्य पदार्थ तथा वस्तु उपलब्ध करायी जाती है;

(ख) क्या देश के सभी राज्यों और संघ शासित क्षेत्रों में उपलब्ध करायी जाने वाली वस्तुओं की कीमत एक समान है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह): (क) केन्द्रीय सरकार, राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के जरिए वितरण हेतु छः मुख्य आवश्यक वस्तुओं, अर्थात् चावल, गेहूं, चीनी, आयातित खाद्य तेल, मिट्टी का तेल और साफ्ट कोक का थोक में आवंटन करती है। राज्य सरकारों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र प्रशासनों को संपुष्ट सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के क्षेत्रों में स्थानीय आवश्यकताओं और पसंद के आधार पर उचित दर दुकानों के जरिए वितरण हेतु आम खपत की अतिरिक्त वस्तुओं को शामिल करने की सलाह दी गई है। अनेक राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों द्वारा संपुष्ट सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के तहत आने वाले क्षेत्रों में चाय, दाल आयोडिनयुक्त नमक और साबुन जैसी वस्तुओं का वितरण किए जाने की सूचना है।

(ख) और (ग) केन्द्रीय सरकार नियत केन्द्रीय निर्गम मूल्यों पर खाद्यान्नों का थोक में आवंटन करती है तथा राज्य सरकारें/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र प्रशासन स्थानीय करों, लेवी, थोक/खुदरा विक्रेताओं के लिए मार्जिन, परिवहन प्रभार इत्यादि को हिसाब में लेते हुए स्वयं ही अन्तिम खुदरा मूल्य निर्धारित करते है। संपुष्ट सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली क्षेत्रों के मामले में केन्द्रीय सरकार ने राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को सलाह दी है कि इन क्षेत्रों के लिए अन्तिम खुदरा मूल्य इन क्षेत्रों के लिए केन्द्रीय निर्गम मूल्यों से 25 पैसे प्रति कि०ग्रा० से अधिक नहीं होनी चाहिए। सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली की चीनी का खुदरा मूल्य देश भर में एक समान है। इस समय सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के बिक्री केन्द्रों के जरिए चीनी का अन्तिम खुदरा मूल्य 9.05 रुपये प्रति कि०ग्रा० है। सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली की अन्य वस्तुओं के अन्तिम खुदरा मूल्य राज्य सरकारों द्वारा परिवहन प्रभार,

Impact of increase In the prices of pulses

1949. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI O.P. KOHLI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the retail prices of pulses during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for rise in prices of pulses;

(c) whether the increase in the prices of pulses has an adverse impact on per capita consumption; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the supply position of pulses?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) A statement indicating retail prices of selected pulses during the last years is given at annexure Statement *(see* below)

(b) and (c) The prices of pulses have shown some uptrend mainly due to an estimated gap of about 3 million tonnes in the dmand for and supply of pulses, nearly stagnant production and increase in the Minimum Support Prices. There is no evidence to show that the rise in the prices of pulses alone has any adverse impact on per capita consumption.

(d) Apart from taking measures to increase the domestic production of pulses, the Government has put the import of pulses under OGL to augment the supply and make them available to common man at reasonable prices. Pulses are also being supplied through the retail outlets of Cooperative Stores, Kendriya Bhandar and State Civil Supplies Corporations.

Statement

Retail prices of pulses at selected centres

(Rs. per kg.)

Commodity/ Centres	Current price (15.3.1995)	1 year ago (16.3.1994)	2 years ago (17.3.1993)	3 years ago (18.3.1992)
GRAM				
Delhi	14.00	17.50	12.00	10.00
Bombay	20.00	17.00	14.00	10.00
Calcutta	18.00	18.00	12.00	9.50
Madras	14.00	16.50	12.50	10.00
TUR				
Delhi	18.00	16.50	13.50	15.00
Bombay	22.00	17.00	16.00	17.00
Calcutta	20.00	17.00	16.00	16.00
Madras	23.00	23.00	17.00	17.00

Source; States Civil Supplies Departments.

Setting up of National Quality Council

1950. SHRI G.Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up National Quality Council (NQC), a high-level autonomous body which will monitor and accredit companies for meeting mandatory standards of production, to replace the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS);

(b) if so, its broad features, composition and functions;

(c) whether the European Union is expected to provide some funds for the project; if so, how much and the nature of expert, technical and other assistance, likely to be given by it; and

(d) how far will it differ from the existing BIS as a policy making body?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (d) The matter of Setting up of National Quality Council (NQC) is still under the consideration of the Government. However, it is not envisaged to replace the Bureau of Indian Standards, which is functioning as per BIS Act 1986.

Consumer cases in the country

1951. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHAR MA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUP PLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a huge pile-up of consumer cases in the country at present;

(b) if so, details thereof, state-wise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that frequent adjournments of consumer cases by presiding officers lead to delays; and

(d) whether Government are considering to amend the consumer court procedure to avoid delay; details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUP PLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry compiles such information on quarterly basis. Based on the information available, a statement has been prepared and is given as Annexure. *[See* Appendix 173, Annexure No. 45]

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) This aspect could be taken care of under the present provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 and the Rules framed thereunder itself.

Sugar Released through PDS

1952. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: WU1 the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the actual proportion of the total releases of sugar that have been released through the Public Distribution System during 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95; and

(b) whether Gvoernment have any proposal to revert to the arrangements prevalent in the early decades following independence when 65 to 70 per cent of sugar released was through Public Distribution System?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Under the present policy of partial control, being followed continuously since 17.12.1979, a specified percentage of the total production of each sugar factory is procured as levy sugar at notified ex-factory prices for distribution through the public Distribution System at a uniform retail issue price throughout the country. The ratio of levy to free sale sugar during the last four years in given as under:—

Sugar Season (October to September)	Ratio of Levy	Freesale
1991-92	45	55

1992-95	40	60
1993-	40	60
1994-	40	60

However, due to various incentive schemes, under which higher free sale quota is being allowed to factories covered under those schemes, the effective levy, freesale ratio presently is about 33:67.

(b) At present, there is no proposal under consideration to change the levy-frecsale ratio of 40:60.

Extending Jurisdiction of Consumer Courts

1953. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is consid ering extending the jurisdiction of the Consumer Courts in the country;

(b) the number of Consumer Courts functioning at different levels in the country;

(c) whether Government has considered the need for more consumer Courts in view of the growing number of cases; and

(d) if so, whether there are proposals to establish more Consumer Courts?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL CUP-PLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) A working Group has been set up to suggest amendments in the Consumer Protection Act and Rules to make implementation of the consumer protection Act, 1986 more effective and ensure smooth and effective functioning of consumer courts.

(b) A National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission at the National level, 31 State Commissions and 457 District fora are already functioning in the country. The State of Jammu & Kashmir has adopted the Jammu & Kashmir Consumer Protection Act, 1987. State-wise position is indicated in the statement enclosed, *(see* below)

(c) and (d) The Consumer Protection Act, 1986 has already been amended through the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Act, 1993 empowering the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to set up additional District Fora in a District depending upon the workload. However, the decision to establish the additional District Fora lies solely with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

Statement

Position of Implementation of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986

State/UT	Position of State Commission	No. of Districts	Position of District Forums
Andhra Pradesh	Functioning	23	22 Functioning
Arunachal Pradesh	Functioning	12	12 Functioning
Assam	Functioning	23	23 Functioning
Gujarat	Functioning	20	20 Functioning
Bihar	Functioning	50	39 Functioning
Goa	Functioning	2	2 Functioning
Haryana	Functioning	16	16 Functioning
Himachal Pradesh	Functioning	12	12 Functioning

State/UT	Position of State Commission	No. of Districts	Position of District Forums
Karnataka	Functioning	20	20 Functioning
Kerala	Functioning	14	14 Functioning
Madhya Pradesh	Functioning	45	45 Functioning
Maharashtra	Functioning	31	31 Functioning
Manipur	Functioning	8	8 Functioning
Meghalaya	Functioning	7	7 Functioning
Mizoram	Functioning	3	3 Functioning
Nagaland	Functioning	7	7 Functioning
Orissa	Functioning	27	13 Functioning
Punjab	Functioning	14	13 Functioning
Rajasthan	Functioning	30	30 Functioning
Sikkim	Functioning	4	4 Functioning
Tamil Nadu	Functioning	22	22 Functioning
Tripura	Functioning	3	3 Functioning
Uttar Pradesh	Functioning	63	63 Functioning
West Bengal	Functioning	17	17 Functioning
A & N Island	Functioning	2	2 Functioning
Chandigarh	Functioning	1	1 Functioning
D &N Haveli	Functioning	1	1 Functioning
Delhi	Functioning	1	2 Functioning
Daman & Diu	Functioning	2	2 Functioning
Lakshadweep	Functioning	1	1 Functioning
Pondicherry	Functioning	1	1 Functioning

No. of State Commission Functioning : 31
No. of District Forums Functioning : 457

In addition, one State Commission and two Divisional Fora are functioning in the State of Jammu & Kashmir where they have enacted a separate Jammu & Kashmir Consumer Protection Act, 1987.

Factors Responsible for Influencing Prices

1954. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the answer to UnStarred Question 5230 given in the Rajya Sabha on 2nd May, 1994 and State:

(a) the details of various factors responsible for influencing the pricing of consumer items; and

(b) the steps taken to keep strict watch on those factors?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) The factors which influence the pricing of consumer items include the cost of raw material, salaries, cost of packaging and marketing, advertisement cost, etc.

(b) At a macro-level the Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution monitors the prices of 12 essential commodities on a daily basis and 27 other commodities on a weekly basis. At a micro-level the factors mentioned in part (a) above are influenced by manufacturers themselves taking into account competitiveness of the market.

Poor Consumer Awareness Regarding Consumer Courts

1955. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to State:

(a) whether it is a fact that study undertaken on the working of Consumer Courts in the country, has revealed that 83.5% of the population was not aware of the Consumer Protection Act;

(b) whether it is also a fact that, as per the study even among those who knew about the Act, many were ignorant about the procedure of filing a complaint in a Consumer Court;

(c) whether Government contemplate to intensify its efforts in promoting general consuemr awarness in the country; and

(d) if so, steps beign taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (d) The Indian Institute of Public Administration conducted a survey, entrusted to it by this Ministry, in five States (Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal). In each State only two Districts were selected. According to the conclusions arrived by method of random sampling, a total number 1168 persons were contacted out of which 976 are reported to be unaware about the Conumer Protection Act, 1986. A total number of 1051 were not aware of the procedure for filing complaints in Consumer Courts. The Government have taken a number of steps to give wide publicity to the Consumer Redressal Fora set up under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. The Ministry has printed booklets, brochures etc. on Consumer Protection Act, 1986 which are distributed free of cost, some of these publications give the procedure for filing complaints. The Ministry is also broadcasting a weekly A.I.R. Programme "Apne Adhikar" from all the Commercial Broadcasting stations in all the regional languages which impart knowledge about consumer redressal fora. Similarly, Ministry is Publishing a quarterly journal entitled "Upabhokta Jagaran" which is being distributed to all the voluntary consumer organisations, Libraries etc. free of cost. As a results of the efforts of Government and non-government consumer organisations awareness programmes will certainly spread to the grass root level all over the country in course of time.

राज्यों में सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली से संबंधित नियम

1956. प्रो॰ राम बख्श सिंह वर्मा: क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में विभिन्न राज्यों में, विशेषकर उत्तर प्रदेश में शहरी और ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में, सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के नियम अलग-अलग हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है और इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि गाजियाबाद जिले के लोनी क्षेत्र में सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के अन्तर्गत चावल तथा गेंहू का वितरण नहीं किया जाता है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ङ) क्या सरकार गाजियाबाद जिले के लोनी क्षेत्र में सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के अन्तर्गत गेहूं और चावल उपलब्ध कराने का विचार रखती है?

नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह): (क) और (ख) सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली, केन्द्रीय सरकार तथा राज्य सरकारों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र प्रशासनों की संयुक्त जिम्मेदारी है। केन्द्रीय सरकार सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के तहत वितरित की जाने वाली छः प्रमुख आवश्यक वस्तुओं को अधिप्राप्ति, भण्डारण और थोक में आबंटन के लिए जिम्मेदार है। सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के कार्यान्वयन की प्रचालनात्मक जिम्मेदारी, जिसमें उचित दर दुकाने खोलना, पात्रता के मापदण्ड तथा सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली की वस्तुओं के आबंटन का मापदण्ड निर्धारित करना, राशन कार्ड जारी करना आदि शामिल हैं, राज्य सरकारों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों की होती है। स्थानीय

स्थितियों में अन्तर के अनुसार, कुछ राज्य सरकारें हकदारों का अलग पैमाना अपनाती हैं तथा राज्य के भीतर अलग-अलग इलाकों/क्षेत्रों के लिए भिन्न-भिन्न प्रचालनात्मक दिशा-निर्देश जारी करती है। ऐसे ब्यौरे केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा नहीं रखे जाते हैं। (ग) से (ङ) केन्द्रीय सरकार को ऐसी कोई विशिष्ट रिपोर्ट प्राप्त नहीं हुई है। राज्य के भीतर विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली को वस्तुओं का आबंटन करना राज्य सरकार की जिम्मेदारी है।

CBI Enquiry against Senior Managers and Officials

1957. SHRI GOPAL SINGH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some very Senior Managers, viz Deputy General managers C & F, Assistant Managers including Purchase managers, Personnel Managers etc. of various Government undertakings have been proceeded against by the CBI and other vigilance enquiries for corruption and malpractices;

(b) whether such Managers are continuing in their positions without any further check or preventive action from Government;

(c) whether Government have since identified such corrupt managers/officials;

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(e) what concrete action is proposed for removal of corrupt mangers/officials pending completions of enquiries against them?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) (a) to (e) There are no CBI/vigilance cases pending against any Senior Officer of the Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited, the only Public Sector Undertaking under the administrative control of this Ministry.

Funds to State Governments to clear arrears of cases in Conumser Courts

1958. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government propose to release funds to the State Governments for clearing the massive arrears of cases in Consumer Courts by strengthening them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the number of cases in Consumer Courts are rising consistently; and

(d) if so, what other steps the Central Government propose to take to clear cases in Consumer Courts?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) (a) and (b) An amount of Rupees sixty one crores has been agreed to, in principle, by the Planning Commission for disbursement as one time assistance to the State Governments for strengthening the Consumer Courts.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The responsibility of clearing the pending cases by the Consumer Courts lies with State Governments. For this purpose, many of the State Governments are converting part time district fora into full time. The Consumer Protection Act, 1986 also provides for setting up of additional District Fora depending upon the work load. However, responsibility of setting up of additional District Fora lies solely with the State Governments. Central Government has also been requesting all the States and Union Territories to monitor pendency in Consumer Courts and ensure expeditious disposal of pending cases.

International commodity exchange

1959. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any proposals to establish an International Commodity Exchange in India;

(b) what are the commodities that would be traded through this Exchange once this becomes operational and whether the farmer producer lobbies would have direct involvement in the process; and

(c) what are the recommendations of the Kabra Commission on this aspect and whether such similar recommendations aimed at boosting India's agro-exports would be taken up for early implementation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) A proposal for the setting up of International Commodity Exchange in Pepper has been received by the Central Government.

(c) The Kabra. Committee which was appointed by the Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribtion in June, 1993 to review the operations of the forward markets and to assess the role of the Forward Markets Commission, has since submitted its report to the Government. The Government has not taken any decision on the recommendations of the Report as ft involves consultation with various Government Departments/Organisations.

Rising Prices of Pulses

1960. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of pulses have increased repidly during the last few weeks in the country;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) No Sir, The Wholesale price of pulses have shown a declining trand during the last few weeks from 4.2.95 to 4.3.95. A statement indicating the percentage variations in the Wholesale Price Indices for pulses for the same period is given in the enclosed Statement. (See below)

(c) Although the prices of pulses are under check in recent weeks, the Government is closely monitoring the price levels and availability position of pulses in the country. As a measure towards augmenting the availability of pulses, the import of the same has been brought under OGL at 10% customs duty. Pulses are also being made available through the retail outlets of Cooperative Stores, Kendriya Bhandar and State Civil Supplies Corporations etc., although this is not an item under the Public Distribution System.

(Base 1981-82=100)

Statement

Percentage Variation in Wholesale Price Indices of Pulses as on 4-3-1995

Group/Item	Weight	Over 1 week 4.3.95 4.2.95	Over 2 weeks 4.3.95 25.2.95	Over 4 weeks 4.3.95 18.2.95
Pulses	1.09	-1.9	-2.8	-5.0

1	2	3	4	5
Gram	0.41	-1.9	-3.3	-10.6
Arhar	0.27	-3.9	-4.9	-2.2
Moong	0.20	-1.1	-1.5	-1.4
Masur	0.05	-0.8	-1.8	-9.2
Urad	0.15	-0.2	-0.3	-1.2

Source: Office of Economic Adviser, Ministry of Industry.

उपभोक्ता-जागृति संबंधी गोष्ठी

1961. श्री मूलचन्द मीणा: क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या उपभोक्ताओं में जागृति लाने हेतु भारतीय उपभोक्ता संगठन संघ ने हाल ही में एक गोष्ठी आयोजित की थी;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और इस गोष्ठी में क्या सुझाव दिये गये थे; और

(ग) सरकार की इस संबंध में क्या प्रतिक्रिया है?

नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री बुटा सिंह): (क) से (ग) राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली द्वारा सुझाया की गई सूचना के अनुसार भारतीय उपभोक्ता संगठन संघ द्वारा उपभोक्ता जागृति के बारे में किसी संगोष्ठी के आयोजित किए जाने की बात अभी तक उनकी जानकारी में नहीं आई है।

Excluding affluent classes from benefits of PDS

1962. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state: be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been considering the question of excluding the affluent classes from the benefits of the Public Distribution System as per recommendations of the related advisory council; and

(b) if so, what were the precise recommendations of the advisory council; and what decision, if any, has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) Based on the decision taken in the 15th Meeting of Advisory Council on Public Distribution System (PDS) in March, 1993, the Government set up a Committee of Ministers to make recommendations for evolving a National Policy on PDS which should focus on the need to allocate larger and more meaningful quantities of foodgrains to the really needy and deserving sections of society. The recommendations contained in the report of the Committee of Ministers regarding exclusion is as under:

(i) In order to ensure that larger and more meaningful quantities of foodgrains reach the really needy and poorer sections it is inescapable that the relatively better off sections of the population are excluded from access to the PDS in respect of foodgrains.

(ii) Income criterion is the best criterion for exclusion of relatively better off categories from the PDS. However, considering the difficulties in translating this criterion into actual practice, an alternate workable modality could be to determine a number of categories of persons which can be considered as ostensibly better off and clearly non-poor for exclusion.

The report of the Committee of Ministers was considered in the 16th meeting of the Advisory Council on PDS and it was agreed that the matter required further discussion with the State Governments/UT Administrations through the forum of the National Development Council.

Forwarding Trading in Commodities

1963. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trading in commodity futures is banned at present;

(b) if so, the considerations which weighed with Government in permitting the ITC Agro to set up the country's first commodity futures exchange in Bombay;

(c) the functions of this exchange and the control exercised by Government over it;

(d) whether Government have by now received the Kabra Commission report;

(e) if so, the salient recommendations thereof; and;

(f) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) At present, trading in commodity futures is not banned. Such trading is being allowed in the country in respect of commodities like castor seed, pepper, turmeric, gur, hessian and potatoes.

(b) and (c) The Government have not permitted the ITC Agro to set up a Commodity Futures Exchange in Bombay.

(d) to (f) The Kabra Committee which was appointed by the Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs & Public Distribution in June, 1993 to review the operations of the forward markets and to assess the role of the Forward Markets Commission, has since submitted its report to the Government. The Government has not taken any decision on the recommendations of the Report as it involves consultations with various Government Department/Organisations.

उपभोक्ता संरक्षण आन्दोलन के संबंध में भारतीय लोक प्रशासन संस्थान की सिफारिशें

1964. **श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराजः**
श्री राम जेठमलानीः

क्या नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे किः

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारतीय लोक प्रशासन संस्थान (आई०आई०पी०ए०) ने देश में उपभोक्ता संरक्षण आन्दोलन में गति लाने के लिए उपभोक्ता न्यायालयों को और अधिक शक्तियां प्रदान किये जाने की सिफारिश की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वे सिफारिशें क्या-क्या हैं;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने इन सिफारिशों को स्वीकार कर उन्हें कार्यान्वित करने का निर्णय लिया है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने कौन-कौन सी सिफारिशों को कार्यन्वित करने का निर्णय लिया है; और

(ङ) कौन-कौन सी सिफारिशों को कार्यान्वित नहीं किया जा रहा है?

नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह): (क) और (ख) जी हां। भारतीय लोक प्रशासन संस्थान ने इस मंत्रालय द्वारा सौंपे गए कार्य पर अपनी सर्वेक्षण रिपोर्ट में उपभोक्ता न्यायालयों को अधिक शक्तियां देने की सिफारिश की है। ऐसी कुछ सिफारिशें हैं:—

(i) अंतरिम आदेश जारी करने की शक्ति देना, (ii) उपभोक्ता न्यायालयों के निर्णयों को लागू करने के लिए निष्पादन अभिकरण की व्यवस्था करना, (iii) एक उपभोक्ता न्यायालय से दूसरे उपभोक्ता न्यायालय को मामले अन्तरित करना, (iv) उच्च न्यायालयों की रिट अधिकारिता का अपवर्जन, आदि ।

(ग) से (ङ) मंत्रालय ने इन सुझावों को कार्य दल को भेजा है, जिसका गठन उपभोक्ता संरक्षण अधिनियम, 1986 को अधिक प्रभावशाली बनाने के लिए उसमें उपयुक्त संशोधनों का सुझाव देने हेतु किया गया है।

हिन्दुस्तान वेजिटेबल आयल कारपोरेशन का सरकारी क्षेत्र के अन्य एककों के साथ विलय किया जाना

1965. **श्री मूलचन्द मीणा:** क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार का सरकारी क्षेत्र के उपक्रम, हिन्दुस्तान वेजिटेबल आयल कारपोरेशन का सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के अन्य एककों के साथ विलय करने का कोई प्रस्ताव है,

(ख) हिन्दुस्तान वेजिटेबल आयल कारपोरेशन को कुल कितनी संचित हानि हुई है;

(ग) इस उपक्रम को अर्थक्षम बनाने हेतु क्या-क्या कदम उठाए हैं गये;

(घ) क्या सरकार के पास हिन्दुस्तान वेजिटेबल आयल कारपोरेशन को निजी पार्टियों को पट्टे पर देने का कोई अन्य प्रस्ताव है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो क्या इस संबंध में कोई निर्णय लिया गया है?

नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह): (क) हिन्दुस्तान वेजिटेबल आयल्स कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड (एच०वी०ओ०सी०) का खाद्य तिलहनों/तेलों का कारबार करने वाले सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के कुछ उपक्रमों के साथ विलय करने के प्रस्तावों पर विचार किया गया था लेकिन उसे कार्यरूप नहीं दिया जा सका क्योंकि संबंधित सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों को उक्त विलय स्वीकार नहीं था।

(ख) कम्पनी को 1993-94 तक 18.46 करोड़ रुपए की संचित हानि हुई है।

(ग) हिन्दुस्तान वेजिटेबिल आयल्स कारपोरेशन को हुई हानि को नियंत्रित करने के लिए अनेक कदम गए हैं। कम्पनी में अधिशेष कर्मचारियों में 670 कर्मचारियों द्वारा स्वैच्छिक सेवानिवृत्ति स्कीम के तहत दिए गए सेवानिवृत्ति के विकल्प के जरिए कमी की गई है। मितव्ययिता के अनेक उपाय अपनाए गए हैं यथा कर्मचारियों को उपलब्ध सुविधाओं को रोकना/कम करना, निगमित कार्यालय को किराए के परिसर से अपने परिसर में स्थानान्तरित करना आदि। हिन्दुस्तान वेजिटेबल आयल्स कारपोरेशन ने कार्यों में आर्थिक-आत्मनिर्भरता प्राप्त करने के लिए एक आधुनिकीकरण का कार्यक्रम भी तैयार किया है।

(घ) व (ङ) इस समय ऐसे किसी प्रस्ताव पर सरकार विचार नहीं कर रही है।

Committee to decide Maximum Retail Price

1966. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI O.P. KOHLI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee set up to decide 'maximum retail price' (MRP) to be paid on a particular product, has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, what are the details of the recommendations made by the Committee and what action has been taken on each of the recommendations; and;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor and by when the Committee is expected to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Committee has recommended the maintenance of status quo in respect of "Maximum Retail Price".

(c) Does not arise.

Rise in Prices of Pulses in Delhi

1967. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of pulses have risen high in the recent past in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and the steps taken to contain the rise in prices thereof; and;

(c) the prices of pulses, pulse-wise and quality-wise, prevailing in the Super Bazar/Kendriya Bhandar/Open Market during the last 12 months, monthwise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (c). A

statement showing the retail prices of pulses during the last one yer, month-wise at Super Bazar, Kendriya Bhandar and open market at Delhi is given at Annexure. *[See* Appendix 173, Annexure No. 46]

(b) The prices of pulses in general have shown some upward trend mainly due to an estimated gap of about 3 million tonnes in the demand for and supply of pulses, nearly stagnant production and increase in the Minimum Support Prices. Apart from taking measures to increase the domestic production of pulses, the Government has put the import of pulses under OGL at 10% customs duty to augment supply and make them available to common man at reasonable prices. Pulses are also being supplied through the retail outlets of Cooperative Stores, Kendriya Bhandar and State Civil Supplies Corporations.

District Consumer Fora in Tamil Nadu

1968. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) how many District Consumer Fora are presently functioning in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the details thereof indicating the number of cases pending before each Forum;

(c) how many cases were instituted and how many cases were disposed of during the last three years, year-wise figures; and

(d) whether Government will institute more Fora in cities- like Madras, Coimbatore, Madurai and Trichy for speedy disposal of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) As per information available with the Central Government, 22 District Fora are functioning in Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c) The Ministry compiles this information on quarterly basis. As on 30.9.'1994, 26089 number of cases have been filed out of which 16241 have been disposed by the District Fora functioning in Tamil Nadu. As such 9848 cases are pending with them. This Ministry does not compile District Forum-wise information.

(d) The responsibility of setting up additional District Forum lies solely with the State Government.

Coffee Prices

1969. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the cost of a 50 gram Jar of the Nestle Coffee in the open market, Super Bazar, Kendriya Bhandar during each of last twelve months; and;

(b) the reasons for varying prices of the product in the Super Bazar and the Kendriya Bhandar?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) A Statement in respect of Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar is enclosed. *(See* below). This Ministry is not monitoring the open market price of this commodity.

(b) The reasons for varying prices of the products in super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar arc due to variation in makeup on landed cost and selling of left over stocks.

Statement

(Selling price Rs. per jar)

	Super Bazar 50 gm jar of Nestle Coffee	Kendriya Bhandar 50 gm jar of Nestle Coffee
March '94	28.50	24.00
April '94	28.50	24.00

May '94	28.50	24.00
June '94	28.50	24.00
July '94	28.50	24.00
August '94	28.50	24.00
Sept. '94	28.50	24.00
October '94	42.15	41.00
November '94	42.15	41.00
December '94	42.15	41.00
January '95	42.15	41.00
February '95	42.00	41.00
March, '95	42.15	41.00

Coal supply to U.P. Thermal Power Stations

1970. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that short supply of coal by Northern Coal Fields Limited, has adversely affected power generation at Anpara Thermal Power Project of the Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board; if so, what are the reasons therefore;

(b) how much loss of energy generation has taken place due to short supply of coal in the above case; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to ensure that such a lapse does not recur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) According to the information received from Coal India Ltd., the total coal despatches to Anpara Thermal Power Station during the period April, 1994 to February, 1995 were 5.438 million tonnes (provisional) as against the linkages of 5.440 million tonnes and against the pro-rata demand of 3.703 million tonnes assessed by CEA. Since coal supplies were almost at par with linkages, the question of coal shortage adversely affecting generation, does not arise.

(c) The Coal Companies are in a position to meet the entire demand of UPSEB with the overall constraints including availability of wagons and payments against coal supplies. The despatches of coal for the power sector are monitored on a daily basis. Further the situation is reviewed every week in a high level meeting presided over by Secretary (Coordination) in the Cabinet Secretariat. Movement of coal to power sector is given utmost priority by Railways. On the basis of periodical reviews corrective action is taken wherever necessary.

Oxygen Plants at the Central Hospitals of BCCL

1971. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while purchasing the three Oxygen Plants installed in the Central Hospitals at Dhanbad, Jealgora and Loyabad of Bharat Coking Coal Limited, due procedures have not been followed;

(b) whether these purchases had the approval of the Board of Functional Directors of the BCCL as required under the rules;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that this contract has been awarded in violation of all the norms to only one particular contractor by manipulating the amount by showing it in three parts in order to avoid the requirement of due sanction by the Board of Functional Directors of BCCL;

(e) if so, whether the persons responsible for this irregularity have been punished; and

(0 if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (0- As per

information received from Coal India Limited, purchase procedures were followed for procurement of Oxygen Concentrators for Central Hospital, Dhanbad under the jurisdiction of Bharat Coking Coal Limited. No Oxygen concentrators have been procured for Jealgora and Loyabad. According to Coal India Limited the purchase proposal was approved by the competent authority as per the delegation of power and the proposal did not require approval of Functional Directors of Bharat Coking Coal Limited.

Promotional drilling to extract lignite

1972. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the result of "Promotional Drilling" taken-up in Mannarqudi and Veeranum area in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether it is a fact that large quantity of lignite is available in those areas; and;

(c) if so, what are the actions taken to utilise these deposits in commercial line as done in Neyveli by Neyveli Lignite Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) As per information received from Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL), a total of about 1165 million tonnes and 17,940 million tonnes of lignite reserves have been assessed in Veeranam Eri and Mannargudi areas of Tamil Nadu respectively through promotional drilling being carried out by MECL.

(c) Exploitation of these reserves will depend on techno-economic considerations after completion of drilling and preparation of geological reports.

Mugoli and other Opencast Projects

1973. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently approved the Mugoli Opencast Project of the Western Coalfields Limited, in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have also approved the Godavari Khani No. 10-A Incline Underground of the Singareni Collieries Company Limited; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (d). The Government have approved the Mugoli Opencast Project of Western Coalfields Ltd. and also the Revised Cost Estimates for Godavari Khani No. 10-A Incline Underground project of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. Details of these projects are given below:—

	Capacity (m.t pa.)	Cost (Rs. Crores)
Mugoli OCP, WCL	0.80	83.63
RCE for Godavari Khani No. 10-A Incline UG, SCCL	0.77	116.53

State Governments proposal for Royalty on Coal

1974. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from State Governments for revision of royalty on coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Representations were made by several State Governments before the Study Group appointed by the Central Govt, to consider revision of royalty rates on coal. While the Govt, of Bihar represented for fixation of ad-valorem rates of royalty on coal between 45% to 55%, the Govts, of Madhya Pradesh, Assam and West Bengal represented for fixation of ad-valorem rates at 20% of coal price. Govt. of Karnataka represented for limiting the total taxes levied on coal to 5% ad-valorem.

Govts, of Orissa and Maharashtra suggested continuation of specific rates of royalty on coal.

(c) The suggestion for fixation of royalty on ad-valorem basis did not find favour with the Study Group. After taking into consideration the report of the Study Group, the Government revise the rates of royalty on coal w.e.f. 11.10.1994, raising the average royalty rate for coal produced by Coal India Ltd. from Rs. 70 per tonne to Rs. 86.40. per tonne.

कोल इंडिया लिमिटेड के भ्रष्ट अधिकारी

1975. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह:** क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान कोल इंडिया लि० के कितने अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध भ्रष्टाचार के मामले आये हैं और ऐसे मामलों की-संख्या कितनी है तथा इनमें से कितने मामलों का निपटारा कर लिया गया है; और

(ख) उपर्युक्त अधिकारियों में से कितने अधिकारी और पदाधिकारी दोषी पाये गये और किन-किन अधिकारियों एवं पदाधिकारियों के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही की गई और प्रत्येक मामले में किस तरह की कार्यवाही की गई?

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजित कुमार पांजा): (क) और (ख) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान कोल इंडिया लि० तथा इसकी सहायक कंपनियों के अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध 294 मामले आरंभ किए गए हैं तथा ऐसे 120 मामलों को अंतिम रूप दे दिया गया है।

91 अधिकारियों के मामले में अभी तक कार्यवाही पूर्ण कर ली गई है, जैसाकि नीचे दर्शाया गया है:—

कार्रवाई	अधिकारियों की संख्या
अभियोजन	23
भारी दंड	14
हल्का दंड	34
दोषमुक्ति	4
प्रशासनिक कार्रवाई	14
चेतावनी	2
जोड़:	91

उन अधिकारियों, जिनके विरुद्ध कार्रवाई की गई है, उनके नाम बताना वांछनीय नहीं होगा क्योंकि उन्हें की गई कार्रवाई के विरुद्ध कानूनी रूप में सहायता प्राप्त करने अथवा विभागीय रूप से अपीलीय प्राधिकारियों के सम्मुख अपना पक्ष रखने का अधिकार है।

Outstanding arrears of CIL

1976. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what are the total arrears to Coal India Limited towards supply of coal as on date;

(b) out of the total arrears, how much are from State Electricity Boards, Railways and other public and private Sector establishments; and;

(c) what action has been taken to recover the dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) As on 28.2.95 the total amount of outstanding dues to Coal India Ltd. from all consumers on account of coal supplies was Rs. 4294 crores (provisional). The sector-wise break up of this is as below:

	(Rs. in crores)
(i) State Electricity Boards	1969
(ii) Railways	66

(iii) Other Public Sector (iv)	2093
Private Sector	166
TOTAL:	4294

(c) Following steps are being taken by CIL/Government to reduce the outstanding dues of CIL:—

(i) Ministry of Coal has advised Coal Companies to supply coal to power houses only against advance payments or Letters of Credit.

(ii) Coal Companies are holding periodical discussions with State Electricity Boards to reconcile the outstanding dues and persuade them to make payments.

(iii) Recovery of dues by way of adjustment against energy bills of Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), Bihar State Electricity Board (BSEB), Orissa State Electricity Board (OSEB), Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Boad (UPSEB) and Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) is being done.

Irregularities in the sale of coal in Bihar and Andhra Pradesh

1977. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and type of coal produced in Bihar and Andhra Pradesh during 1993-94, separately;

(b) whether good quality of coal has been sold at the rates of sub-standard coal;

(c) if so, the number of such cases came to notice during the last one year;

(d) the action taken by the Government against the officers found guilty;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such incidents; and

(f) the revenue earned by the Government from the production of coal during 1993-94, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) the quantities of coal produced in Bihar in the mines of Coal India Limited (CIL) and in Andhra Pradesh in the mines of Singareni Collieries Company Limited during the year 1993-94 were as under:

Bihar —68.82 million tonnes
Andhra Pradesh —25.20 million tonnes

The grades of coal produced in these states are as under:

Bihar	Coking coal
	Steel Grade I & II
	Washery Grade I,II,III & IV
	SLV (Special Low Volatile)
	Non-coking
	Grade A,B,C,D,E & F
Andhra Pradesh	Non-Coking
	Grade C,D,EF & G

(b) As per the information available with Coal India Ltd., which is based on records, good quality of coal has not been sold at the rates of substandard coal.

((c) to (e). Do not arose.

(f) The revenue earned by the respective State Governments during the year 1993-94 in the form of Royalty, Cess and sales tax on coal was as follows:—

(Rs. in crores)

State	Royalty	Cess	(Data Provisional) Sales Tax	Total
West Bengal	10.63	193.00	29.89	233.52

State	Royalty	Cess	Sales Tax	Total
Bihar	555.05	_____	36.54	591.59
Orissa	72.82	—	13.65	86.47
Maharashtra	111.09	—	34.88	145.97
M.P.	369.56	—	51.91	421.47
U.P.	70.59	—	17.82	88.41
Assam	0.44	—	1.00	1.44
Andhra Pradesh	169.20	—	46.43	215.63

Coal reserves

1978. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) how many coal reserves are there in country and their capcity;

(b) how much coal is being extracted daily of their capacity;

(c) how long these reserves will last at the present rate of coal extraction; and

(d) reasons for importing coal from abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) As on 1-1-1995, the coal resources of India (down to a depth of 1200 metres) have been assessed by the Geological Survey of India (GSI) at 200028.99 million tonnes.

(b) and (c) With the present rate of around 0.80 million tonnes average daily coal extraction from the coal mines in the country, the reserves arc likely to last over 100 years.

(d) Integrated steel plants are the main importers of low ash coking coal for the purpose of blending with indigenous coal for meeting the gap between the indigenous availability and the demand and also to improve the quality of overall blend to be used in steel plants.

बिहार में कोयले का अवैध खनन

1979. श्री जनार्दन यादव: क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या बिहार में राजमहल परियोजना के अंतर्गत कोयले का अवैध खनन हो रहा है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो सरकार इस संबंध में क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है?

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजित कुमार पांजा): (क) जी, नहीं। ईस्टर्न कोलफील्ड्स लि॰ (ई॰को॰लि॰) की राजमहल परियोजना के अंतर्गत गैर-कानूनी रूप से उत्खनन किए जाने की कोई सूचना नहीं मिली है। किन्तु, राजमहल परियोजना के हुर्रा ब्लाक के समीप वन क्षेत्रों में गैर-कानूनी खनन की कुछ रिपोर्टें हैं, जोकि राजमहल परियोजना के पट्टेदारी क्षेत्र से बाहर है।

(ख) गैर-कानूनी रूप में उत्खनन रोकने का उत्तरदायित्व विशेषकर पट्टाधारी क्षेत्र से बाहरी क्षेत्रों में संबंधित राज्य सरकार के प्राधिकारियों के पास विद्यमान है। कोल इंडिया लि॰ के अनुसार इस संबंध में निम्न रूप से कार्रवाई की गई है:—

(1) ई॰को॰लि॰ प्रबंधन ने गैर-कानूनी खनन के बारे में जिला प्राधिकारियों तथा जिला खनन अधिकारियों (गोड्डा), बिहार सरकार को इस अनुरोध के साथ सूचित किया है कि इसे रोकने के लिए कार्रवाई करें तथा ऐसा गैर-कानूनी खनन बंद कराएं।

(2) राज्य वन विभाग तथा जिला खनन अधिकारियों ने आवश्यक कार्यवाही करने तथा गैर-कानूनी खनन रोकने के लिए जिला प्राधिकारियों के पास प्रथम सूचना रिपोर्टें/शिकायतें दर्ज कराई हैं।

(3) ई॰को॰लि॰ प्रबंधन ने गैर-कानूनी रूप से किए जा रहे उत्खनन कार्य को बंद करने के लिए डोजियर आदि जैसे उपकरणों की आवश्यक सहायता उपलब्ध कराई है।

Appointment of retired persons for coal price fixation

1980. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices is employing or associating in any manner some retired officials of Coal India Ltd. or Coal Ministry for fixation and review of coal prices in the country from time to time;

(b) what arc the reasons of employment of such interested parties;

(c) whether one of the reasons is that there is shortage of qualified personnel for doing fixation and review of prices of coal in the country; and

(d) if not, why keeping in view the objectivity, in the matter of fixation and review of a monopolised item like coal, suitable and qualified personnel from outside the Coal India Ltd. or Coal Ministry arc not employed or associated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (d). According to information furnished by Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices (BICP) they have been employing/associating retired officers of Coal India Ltd. (CIL) to look into certain specific aspects of their studies on coal industry and not for overall review of fixation of coal price as such their employment/association does not affect the objectivity of coal price fixation. No retired employee of Ministry of Coal has been engaged by BICP. The BICP studies extend to various technical, marketing, distribution and environmental aspects. BICP has been engaging experts including those from Universities/research institutions and other organisations to look into such specific areas. This becomes necessary since it is not possible for BICP to have in-house manpower or expertise at all times particularly since studies of any particular sector are not done on continuous basis. It may perhaps also not be correct to term retired CIL officers as interested parties in the matter of coal price fixation.

Payment of Royalty on Coal

1981. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise distributioin of royalty payments on account of coal in 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) whether such royalty payments have been considered as part of cost for purposes of calculation of sellig price; and

(c) if the asnwer to part (b) above is in the affirmative, whether the practice is not wrong in principle, since royalty is supposed to be paid from out of profits after sales are realised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) The State-wise details of coal royalty paid by Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and Singareni Colliaries Company Ltd. (SCCL) during 19&b92 to 1994-95 (upto September, 1994) were as under:—

(Rs. in Crores)

Coal Company	States	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (upto Sept. 94)
CIL	West Bengal	10.07	8.72	10.63	2.85
CIL	Bihar	317.80	504.31	555.05	252.42
CIL	Orissa	43.47	63.14	72.82	38.11

(Rs. in Crores)

Coal Company	States	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (upto Sept. 94)
CIL	Maharashtra	61.04	108.86	111.09	64.15
CIL	Madhya Pradesh	240.20	384.52	369.56	168.14
CIL	Uttar Pradesh	47.49	66.76	70.39	32.51
CIL	Assam	0.64	0.54	0.44	0.41
CIL	: Andhra Pradesh	720.71	1136.83	1190.18	558.59
SCCL	TOTAL	35.42	100.00	291.30	24.86

(b) Coal prices are fixed by Central Govt, ex-pithead excluding all taxes. Royalty payments are not taken into account while determining costs for price fixation.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (b) above.

कोयले की वार्षिक आय

1982. **श्री जगजन्नाथ सिंह:** क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) भारत सरकार को कोयले से राज्य-वार कितनी वार्षिक आय प्राप्त हो रही है; और

(ख) उक्त वार्षिक आय में से प्रत्येक राज्य को किस दर पर रायल्टी दी जाती है?

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजित कुमार पांजा): (क) और (ख) कोयले की रायल्टी एक कर के रूप में होती है जोकि केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा लगाई जाती है, किन्तु इसका राज्य सरकारों द्वारा, जहां कि कोयला उत्पादित किया जाता है, संग्रहण तथा विनियोजन किया जाता है। चालू दरें जिन पर की कोयले की रायल्टी देय है, विवरण में दी गई है (नीचे देखिए)

केन्द्रीय सरकार, कोयला खान (संरक्षण एवं विकास) अधिनियम, 1974 की धारा 6 की शर्तों के अंतर्गत प्रत्येक कोलियरी से प्रेषित किए गए कोयले से उत्पादन शुल्क का संग्रहण करती है। संग्रहण किए गए उत्पाद शुल्क में से कोयले के संरक्षण तथा इससे संबंधित क्रियाकलापों जैसे रेत भराई, सुरक्षात्मक क्रियाकलाप सतही खांचों की सुरक्षा, वैज्ञानिक रूप में कोयला खानों का विकास तथा कोयला क्षेत्रों में सड़कों का निर्माण किए जाने के लिए सहायता दी जाती है।

विवरण

कोयले पर रायल्टी की दिनांक 11.10.94 से संशोधित दरें और जिनमें 13.1.95 से और संशोधित की गई थीं

(रु० प्रति टन)

	राज्यों के लिए पश्चिम बंगाल तथा मेघालय को छोड़कर	पश्चिम बंगाल तथा मेघालय राज्यों के लिए
I कोयला:		
(क) कोककर कोयला:		
इस्पात ग्रेड—I, इस्पात ग्रेड-II और वाशरी ग्रेड-I	195.00	7.00

(ख)	अरुणाचल प्रदेश, असम और नागालैंड में उत्पादित हाथ से उठाया गया कोयला	150.00	150.00
(II)	ग्रुप -II कोयला:		
(क)	कोककर कोयला: वाशरी ग्रेड-II, वाशरी ग्रेड-III	135.00	6.50
(ख)	अर्द्ध-कोककर कोयला ग्रेड-I अर्द्ध कोककर कोयला ग्रेड-II		
(ग)	गैर-कोककर कोयला ग्रेड-ए गैर-कोककर कोयला ग्रेड-बी		
(घ)	अरुणाचल प्रदेश, असम और नागालैंड में उत्पादित बिना ग्रेड का खान से निकाला हुआ कोयला	120.00	120.00
(III)	ग्रुप-III कोयला:		
(क)	कोककर कोयला वाशरी ग्रेड-4	95.00	5.50
(ख)	गैर-कोककर कोयला ग्रेड-सी		
(IV)	ग्रुप-4 कोयला:		
(क)	गैर-कोककर कोयला ग्रेड "डी"	70.00	4.30
(ख)	गैर-कोककर कोयला ग्रेड-"ई"		
(V)	ग्रुप-5 कोयला:		
(क)	गैर-कोककर कोयला ग्रेड "एफ"	50.00	2.50
(ख)	गैर-कोककर कोयला ग्रेड "जी"		
(VI)	ग्रुप-6 कोयला:		
	आंध्र प्रदेश राज्य में उत्पादित कोयला, सिंगरेनी कोलियरीज़ कंपनी लि०	75.00	—

Demand of Coal

1983. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what quantity of coal would be required during the year 1995-96 and during next three years for meeting the requirements of various industrial groups and for domestic consumption;

(b) whather Coal sector/Public Sector Undertakings have taken any steps for meeting coal requirement; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Sector-wise demand projections for the year 1995-96 and 1996-97 is given below:—

(in million tonnes)

Sector	1995-96	1996-97 (Assessed during Midterm Appraisal of 8th Plan)
1. Steel & Coke Oven	38.70	41.00
2. Sponge Iron/Steel DR	3.00	3.20
3. Power Utilities	180.20 (4.00)	194.00 (5.00)
4. Power Captive	14.30 (2.70)	15.00 (2.70)
5. Railway	0.70	0.40
6. Cement	15.30	17.50
7. Fertilizer	4.70	4.70
8. Export	0.40	0.50
9. LTC Soft Coke	2.90	4.00
10. Bricks and others	24.00	26.70
11. Colliery consumption	3.80	4.00
	288.00 (6.70)	311.00 (7.70)

(Figures in brackets indicate washery middlings)

Firm projections beyond 8th Plan period (1996-97) are not yet available.

(b) and (c) Raw coal demand for 1995-96 and 1996-97 will be met from following sources:

(in million tonnes)

Sources	1995-96	1996-97
A. Production		
Coal India Limited	241.00	263.60
Singareni Collieries Company Limited	28.00	30.20
TISCO/IISCO/ DVC	5.50	6.20
TOTAL	274.50	300.00

Sources	1995-96	1996-97
Draw down of stock	7.50	5.00
Import	6.00	6.00
TOTAL	288.00	311.00

The Coal companies are confident of meeting the coal demand in 1995-96 and 1996-97. Steps taken to meet coal demand in country, *inter-alia.* include opening of new mines, modernisation of existing mines, application of new technology, ensuring timely availability of inputs and infrastructural facilities, better capacity utilisation and maintaining good industrial relations.

In addition, Coal Minw (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 has been air tended w.e.f. 9.6.1993 to allow private sector participation in coal mining for purposes of generation of power, and for other end uses to be notified in addition to existing provision for iron and steel.

Bid to Curtail use or Coal

1984. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's at- tention has been drawn towards the news items under caption "Bid to curtail use of coal criticised" which appeared in the Hindustan Times, New Delhi on the 28th February, 1995;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) how Government propose to resist the attempt of the industrialised countries to stop India from using its coal in order to reduce Carbondioxide emission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is seized of the various issues relating to the Framework convention on Climate Change.

(c) The Government are unaware of any such attempt by industrialised countries.

Batteries and continuous vertical retorts in Dankuni Coal Complex

1985. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to UnStarred Question No. 1748 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th December, 1994 and state:

(a) the number of batteries and number of continuous vertical retorts per battery in the Dankuni Coal Complex;

(b) the designed operating temperature in the retorts;

(e) the designed coal consumption for the rated output of gas per battery; and

(d) for how many days any particular battery has operated at 100 per cent capacity and what has been the actual coal consumption for running of each battery at the rated load?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) There are five batteries at Dankuni Coal Complex (DCC). Each battery contains 20 continuous vertical retorts;

(b) As per design the normal temperature range to be maintained at various passes of the retorts varies from 1100 Degree Celsius to 1350 Degree Celsius;

(c) Designed coal consumption per battery is 300 tonnes of sized coal (-100 mm to +25 mm) per day.

(d) So far none of the batteries has been operated at 100% capacity level at DCC.

Low Phosphorous Coal

1986. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to UnStarred Question No. 1748 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th December, 1994 and state:

(a) what is the quantity of low phosphorous coal brought from Chirimiri Coal Field so far, how much coke was produced and what was the ash content in the same;

(b) what has been the landed cost of the above coal at Dankuni per tonne and what has been the realisation price of the coke produced;

(c) whether any cost benefit analysis has been done on production of ferro alloy coke from coal brought from Chirimiri Coal Field; and

(d) if so, how much cost benefit has been accrued by change of feed-stock from Raniganj to Chirimiri?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) As per information received from Coal India Limited (CIL) approximately 5303 tonnes of low phosphorous coal was brought to Dankuni Coal Complex (DCC) from Chirimiri Coalfield of South Eastern Coalfields Limited. The total coke produced out of this coal is about 2121 tonnes with ash content varying from 22% to 38%.

(b) CIL has informed that the average landed cost of low phosphorous coal brought from Chirimiri Coalfield to DCC works out to Rs. 1495.00 per tonne by rail. Sale price of low phosphorous coke has been fixed from Rs. 2100.00 to Rs. 2600.00 per tonne depending upon the ash content. 30 tonnes of low phosphorous coal has so for been sold @ Rs. 2600.00 per tonne.

(c) and (d) Accoring to CIL, with sale price of Rs. 1280.00 per tonne CILCOKE produced from Raniganj Coal is sold at a loss of Rs. 373.00 per tonne. The ferro-alloy grade coke produced from Chirimiri Coal generates a net profit of about Rs. 485.00 per tonne. Thus the overall benefit is about Rs. 858.00 per tonne of coke produced by replacement of Raniganj Coal with Chirimiri Coal.

Agreement of CIL and Yamunanagar Generating Company Limited

1987. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coal India Limited has made a preliminary coal supply agreement through Central Coalfields Limited with Yamunanagar Generating company Limited for sale and supply of coal;

(b) if so, the estimated volume of coal which would be supplied to the power company;

(c) whether this coal will be supplied from Piparawar Open Cast Mines of ECIL;

(d) if so, whether as per the contract with National Thermal Power Corporation the said mines has also to supply coal to NTPC Plants of Dadri, Badarpur and other Plants;

(e) whether the latest contract of Coal India Limited with the Israeli Power utility at Yamunanagar is going to effect the already assured supply to NTPC Plants; and

(f) if so, the action taken by Government to ensure linkage to NTPC Plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Coal India Ltd. (CIL) have informed that as on date, no agreement has been concluded by them with Yamunanagar Generating Company Ltd. for supply of coal.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

(c) to (f) According to the information received from CIL, coal is being supplied to power stations at Dadri and Badarpur and also to other consumers from North Karanpura Coalfields of Central Coalfields Ltd. Coal India Ltd. have informed that subject to the conclusion of the necessary agreement they are in a position to meet the requirements of Yamunanagar Generating Compar y without adversely affecting supplies to NTPC Plants.

कोयला खानों के मुहानों पर पड़ा कोयला

1988. श्री सुषमा स्वराज:
श्री राम जेठमलानी:

क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कोयला खानों के मुहानों पर सदैव भारी मात्रा में कोयला पड़ा रहता है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो 1991-94 की अवधि के दौरान कोयला खानों के मुहानों पर औसतन कितना कोयला बिना विक्रय के पड़ा रहा;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने वर्ष के दौरान देश में बेचे गए कोयले की मात्रा में से इन कोयला खानों के मुहानों पर पड़े कोयले की प्रतिशतता का आंकलन किया है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो 1991-92, 1992-93 और 1993-94 के वर्षों में कुल कितनी मात्रा में कोयला बेचा गया और कोयला खानों के मुहानों पर पड़ा कोयला, बेचे गए कोयले की कुल मात्रा का कितने प्रतिशत था; और

(ङ) क्या सरकार ने कोयला खानों के मुहानों पर कोयले की अधिकतम मात्रा की उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कोई नीतिगत निर्णय लिया है; यदि हां, तो यह निर्णय क्या है और ऐसा निर्णय लेने के क्या कारण हैं?

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजित कुमार पांजा): (क) और (ख) कोल इंडिया लि० (को०इं०लि०) से प्राप्त सूचना के अनुसार पिछले चार वर्षों के लिए जोकि 1.4.1991 से 1.4.1994 तक की अवधि के दौरान उनके औसत कोयले का अथ स्टाक लगभग 47 मि० टन था।

(ग) और (घ) को०इं०लि० ने यह सूचित किया है कि वर्ष 1991-92, 1992-93 तथा 1993-94 में को०इं०लि० से किए गए कोयले के प्रेषण की तुलना में पिट-हैडों पर कोयले की मात्रा को नीचे दर्शाया गया है :—

(मिलियन टन में)
(आंकड़ा अनंतिम)

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
बंद स्टाक	47.247	49.990	49.488
प्रेषण	194.92	204.98	213.25
बंद स्टाक प्रेषणों की प्रतिशतता के रूप में	24.24	24.39	23.21

(ङ) को०इं०लि० ने अपनी कोयले का उत्पादन करने वाली सहायक कंपनियों के लिए स्टाक करने हेतु निम्नलिखित नीति निर्धारित की है :—

(1) सहायक कंपनी के लिए समग्र रूप में पिट हैडों पर कंपनी का कुल स्टाक एक महीने के उत्पादन के बराबर होना चाहिए।

(2) प्रत्येक कोलियरी पर पिटहैड पर स्टाक 3 महीने के उत्पादन से अधिक नहीं होना चाहिए।

(3) कोलियरियों को पिट-हैडों पर पर्याप्त मात्रा में सदैव स्टाक रखना चाहिए ताकि वे उपलब्ध संख्या में वैगनों का समय से लदान कर सकें।

इस नीति का उद्देश्य कोयले के उत्पादन में मौसमी परिवर्तन होने, उतार चढ़ाव होने के बावजूद कोयले के उपभोक्ता की मांग को पूरा करना है। जबकि इसके साथ-साथ अनावश्यक रूप में/व्यर्थ एकत्रित निरुत्साहित करना है।

कोयले में राख का अंश

1989. श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज:
श्री राम जेठमलानी:

क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सामान्यतः भूमिगत खनन द्वारा उत्तम गुणवत्ता वाला कोयला प्राप्त होता है जो बिना राख के अंश वाला या कम राख वाला होता है;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में तथ्य क्या हैं;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि देश में सरकारी क्षेत्र के एकाधिकार-प्राप्त कोयला उद्योग में भूमिगत खनन की तुलना में खुली खदान खनन (ओपेनकास्ट माइनिंग) द्वारा अधिक मात्रा में कोयला प्राप्त किया जाता है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो 1991-92, 1992-93 और 1993-94 के वर्षों के दौरान खुली खदान खनन (ओपेनकास्ट माइनिंग) तथा भूमिगत खनन द्वारा वर्ष-वार अलग-अलग कितनी-कितनी मात्रा में कोयला प्राप्त किया गया;

(ङ) क्या यह भी सच है कि देश में भूमिगत खानों के खनन में खनन-प्रक्रिया को सुविधाजनक बनाने हेतु आवश्यक अनेक मशीनें तथा अन्य उपकरण भी उपलब्ध हैं; और

(च) यदि हां, तो वर्ष 1994 के अंत में भूमिगत खानों के खनन में उपयोग आने वाले कुल कितने मूल्य के उपकरण चालू हालत में हैं तथा कितने मूल्य के उपकरण भंडार में अप्रयुक्त पड़े हैं?

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजित कुमार पांजा): (क) और (ख) भारतीय कोयले के अवतरण विशेषता के कारण, इसमें 15 से 45% के बीच आमतौर पर उच्च राख की मात्रा विद्यमान होती है, उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र को छोड़कर जहां कि कोयला कम राख वाला

पाया जाता है। ऐसा कोयला, जिसमें राख की मात्रा बिल्कुल न हो, उपलब्ध नहीं है।

(ग) और (घ) जी, हां। इस संबंध में माननीय सदस्य का शायद अपने देश में कुल कोयले के उत्पादन के संबंध में सूचना प्राप्त किए जाने से है। कोल इंडिया लि० तथा सिंगरेनी कोलियरीज़ कंपनी लि० के संबंध में पिछले तीन वर्षों में कोयले के उत्पादन के संबंध में आंकड़े नीचे दिए गए हैं:—

(आंकड़े मिलियन टन में)

वर्ष	भूमिगत	ओपेनकास्ट	जोड़
1991-92	68.93	155.79	224.72
1992-93	70.37	163.36	233.31
1993-94	71.72	169.59	241.31

(ङ) अधिकांशतः भूमिगत खानों के लिए अपेक्षित उपकरण देश में ही उपलब्ध हैं, जिसमें हालेज, पम्पस, कोयला काटने वाली मशीनें, कोयला टब, खान-पंखे, चेन तथा बेल्ट कन्वेयर, एस०डी०एल०, एल०एच०डी० आदि शामिल है। किन्तु पावर-सपोर्ट लांगवाल फेसेज के लिए उपकरणों का अधिकांशतः आयात कर लिया गया है, जिसमें शियरर, पावर रूफ सपोर्ट, ए०एफ०सी०, स्टेज-लोडर, लम्ब ब्रेकर आदि शामिल हैं। माइनिंग एंड एलाएड मशीनरी कारपोरेशन तथा जेसप एंड कंपनी लिमिटेड ने पावर-सपोर्ट के लगभग 40% संरचनाओं का निर्माण कर रहा है।

(च) इस संबंध में सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

सरकारी क्षेत्र में कोयला धोवनशालाएं (कोल वाशरीज़)

1990. **श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज:**
श्री राम जेठमलानी:

क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में उत्पादित कोयले की गुणवत्ता को बढ़ाने हेतु सरकारी क्षेत्र में अनेक कोयला धोवनशालाएं (कोल वाशरीज) कार्यरत हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो दिसम्बर, 1994 की स्थिति के अनुसार देश में कुल कितनी कोयला धोवनशालाएं कार्यरत हैं;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि सरकार ने इन धोवनशालाओं की संख्या बढ़ाने का निर्णय किया है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो कितनी अतिरिक्त कोयला धोवनशालाएं स्थापित की जाएंगी और उनकी कुल उत्पादन क्षमता क्या होगी;

(ङ) क्या इस उत्पादन क्षमता के आधार पर देश में अच्छी गुणवत्ता वाले कोयले की आवश्यकता को पूरा किया जाएगा; और

(च) यदि हां, तो उसकी अनुमानतः कितनी मांग है और देश में कोयला धोवनशालाओं की उत्पादन क्षमता को देश की मांग के अनुरूप बढ़ाकर स्वदेशी उत्पादन से ही देश की आवश्यकता पूरी करने के संबंध में कोई निर्णय न लेने के क्या कारण हैं?

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजित कुमार पांजा): (क) और (ख) इस्पात संयंत्रों को धुले हुए कोयले की आपूर्ति किए जाने के लिए कोल इंडिया लि० के अंतर्गत कुल 25.22 मि०टन प्रतिवर्ष की क्षमता से 15 कोककर कोयला वाशरियां वर्तमान में कार्यरत है।

(ग) से (च) 15 विद्यमान वाशरियों के अलावा, 2 नई कोककर कोयला वाशरी निर्माण के अंतिम चरण में है, जिसमें से एक केडला के स्थान पर सेंट्रल कोलफील्ड्स लि० में 2.60 मि० टन प्रतिवर्ष की और दूसरी भारत कोकिंग कोल लि० में मधुबंद के स्थान पर 2.50 मि० टन प्रतिवर्ष की क्षमता से निर्माणाधीन है। जब इन दो वाशरियों को चालू कर दिया जाएगा तो इस्पात संयंत्रों को धुले हुए कोककर कोयले की आपूर्ति में वृद्धि हो जाएगी। इसके अलावा, कोल इंडिया लि० के पास इस्पात संयंत्रों को धुले हुए कोककर कोयले की आपूर्ति में और वृद्धि किए जाने के लिए "स्व-निर्मित—स्व-चालित" योजना के अंतर्गत 4 नई कोककर कोयला वाशरियों का निर्माण किए जाने के लिए तत्काल योजना उपलब्ध है। क्षमता उपयोगिता में तथा विद्यमान वाशरियों से कोयले की गुणवत्ता में सुधार किए जाने के लिए आधुनिकीकरण की योजनाएं भी विचाराधीन है।

कोल इंडिया लि० ने तापीय विद्युत गृहों तथा सीमेंट संयंत्रों को कोयले की आपूर्ति किए जाने के लिए "स्व-निर्मित—स्व-चालित" आधार पर चरण-I के अंतर्गत 21.20 मि०टन प्रतिवर्ष की कुल उत्पादन क्षमता के लिए 4 खाशरियों को स्थापित किए जाने हेतु निविदाएं भी आमंत्रित की है। यह पहले से ही निर्माणधीन 2 अकोकक्कर कोयला खाशरियों के अलावा है, जोकि एक सेंट्रल कोलफील्ड्स लि० के पीपरवार (6.50 मि०टन प्रतिवर्ष) और दूसरी नार्दर्न कोलफील्ड्स लि० में बीना के स्थान पर (4.50 मि० टन प्रतिवर्ष) की क्षमता से निर्माणधीन है।

Installation of Oxygen plants in the BCCL Hospital

1991. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Central Hospitals at Dhanbad, Lyoabad and Jealgora of Bharat Coking Coal Limited, three Oxygen Plants have recently been installed;

(b) what is the cost of each of these Oxygen Plants and the total cost incurred on the three plants together;

(c) keeping in view the procedures, whether tenders were called to award this contract;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (e) As per information received from Coal India Limited only one set of oxygen concentrator plant consisting of 2 numbers oxygen concentrator, one high powered booster pump and 2 compressors have been installed at Central Hospital, Bharat Coking Coal Limited, Jagjivan Nagar Dhanbad, at a total cost of Rs. 63,59,341.50. Advertised tenders were called for procurement of this item and copies of the tender notice were also sent to trade representatives of different embassies in India. 4 tenders were, received and the contract was awarded to the lowest, technically

Setting up of Commercial Centres in India by USA

1992. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the United States of America is going to set up commercial centres in India to complete global negotiations in trade services and to build up free trade initiatives in the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation Forum; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Government is not aware of any such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

Trade Agreement with Turkey

1393. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have signed any trade agreement with Turkey; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) A Trade Agreement was signed with Turkey in September, 1973 for promotion and expansion of economic and commercial relations between India and Turkey. The Agreement inter alia provides for setting up of a Joint Committee to facilitate the implementation of the agreement and to resolve problems relevant to its application and for recommending measures aimed at promotion of trade between the two countries. The sixth session of the Committee is scheduled to meet in New Delhi on 10-11 April, 1995.

Proposal of Port Blair as a Free Port

1994. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had received any proposal from the Administration of Andaman and Nicobar Island for the development of Port Blair as a free port;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken thereon and if no decision has been taken what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir. No specific proposal for development of Port Blair as a free port has been received from the Andaman & Nicobar Island Administration.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Funds for EPZ, Kandla

1995. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Export Processing Zone, Kandla had urged the Central Government to provide more funds to implement the development schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount allotted during 1993-94;

(d) the amount utilised and the new projects undertaken during 1993-94; and

(e) the new projects to be undertaken during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (e) Implementation of development schemes in Export Processing Zones is an ongoing process for which funds are provided out of annual budget allocations. The specific work; undertaken and the amount spent thereon by the Kandla Free Trade Zone during 1993-94 and 1994-95 are as follows:—

S.No.	Description of work	Amount spent (Rs. lakhs)
1993-94		
1.	11Nos. Industrial sheds	12945
2.	10 Nos. staff quarters	27.46
3.	Roads in the extended area	29.47
4.	Other infrastructural work	7.29
		193.29
1994-95		
1.	8 Nos. Industrial sheds	108.68
2.	10 Nos. Staff quarters	30.30
3.	Water tank with 5 lakh litre	7.87
	capacity 4. Purchase of city office accommodation at Ahmedabad	17.50
	5. Other infrastructural works	35.34
		199.69

Campaign UK Boost Rice-export

1996. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched an aggressive campaign to bost its rice export especially the non-basmati variety to West Asia;

(b) if so, what are the full details thereof; and

(c) what action is proposed to be taken to ensure that India's rice export would increase in the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) The steps taken to promote export of rice include, *inter-alia,* conducting publicity campaigns, sending delegations abroad*

participating in International Trade Fairs, inviting potential buyers and providing financial assistance to exporters for improving . quality, packaging, brand promotion of products and for conducting market surveys.

Export target for agricultural *and* allied commodities

1997. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have fixed an export target for the export of agricultural and allied commodities during the year 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to encourage export of agricultural commodities and processed foods from the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) No targets for the export of agricultural items have been fixed. The policy of the Government is to encourage export of agricultural and allied commodities keeping in view domestic availability and requirements.

(b) Steps taken to encourage export of agricultural commodities and processed foods include, *inter-alia,* simplification of inspection procedures, removal of Minimum Export Price and Quantity restrictions on selected items, provision of concessional credit, product development to meet international needs, extension of benefits available under the scheme of ECUs/EPZs to agriculture sector and permitting 50% sale in the domestic tariff area, lowering of custom duties on various items required by the processed food industries, encouraging export of value added items and enhancing quality and productivity, provision of assistance to exporters for purchase of specialised transport units, establishment of precooling facilities with proper air-handling systems, improved packaging, strengthening of quality control, promoting export of identified products through brand promotion campaigns, arranging byer-seller meets and participation in international fairs/ exhibitions.

Trade with China, USA and Russia

1998. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of trade undertaken with China, USA and Russia during the last three years; and

(b) the number of trade delegations exchanged between India and the aforesaid countries during this period to promote international trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The details, of the trade undertaken with China, USA and Russia are u follows:—

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	China		USA		Russia	
	Export-Import		Export-Import		Export-Import	
1991-92	119	53	7201	4917	4043	1796
1992-93	409	737	10183	6219	1756	737
1993-94	875	945	13256	8584	2037	1193
1994-95 (Upto Sept.)	366	1072	7631	4001	1110	733

(b) Information is being collected and wi!i be laid on the Table of the House.

Foreign exchange earnings from exports

1999. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the foreign exchange earnings from exports during the last three years;

(b) whether the target fixed for exports have been achieved by Government;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to increase the exports of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) India's exports during the last three years were as follows:—

Year	Exports (US$ Million)
1991-92	17865
1992-93	18537
1993-94	22238

(b) and (c) No export target was set for 1991-92. The export target for 1992-93 was not met due to decline in trade with the CIS and other East- European countries; recession in industrially advanced countries; and domestic factors such as, disturbances in some parts of the country in the aftermath of Ayodhya incident. The target set for 1993-94 was achieved when export grew by 20 percent.

(d) Export promotion is a continuous process and steps are taken to boost exports in consultation with trade, industry and other relevant interests. Govt, has taken a number of steps to make the environment of policies and procedures more export-friendly. The measures include grant of Income Tax exemption on export profits, access to cheaper export credit designated in convertible currency and assistance K Export Promotion Councils/Commodity Boards for export market development.

Impact of Dunkel Proposals

2000. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of impact of Dunkel Proposals on Indian Agriculture subsidies, level of import content in consumption, scrapping of public distribution system, intellectual property rights and seed patenting;

(b) the reaction of Government in respect of each of the items mentioned above; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ameliorate their adverse impacts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) India has not undertaken any reduction commitments in respect of the domestic support to agriculture, nor has it taken any commitment on minimum market access. Thus the agreement does not affect our policies and programmes for the development of agriculture. The public distribution system also remains unaffected. No legislation on plant variety protection has yet been put in place. On patents there is a ten year transition period for the introduction of a full patents regime and there is no immediate economic impact.

The Uruguay Round results on the whole would be advantageous to us in increasing our exports.

Export of Indian products to countries needing credit facilities

2001. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the possibility of exporting Indian products to countries which have

potential market for Indian products but need credit facilities tor importing our products; and

(b) if so, what are the steps taken to export our products to such countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (b) Yes, Sir, Export promotion is a continuous process and steps are taken to boost exports in consultation with trade, industry and other relevant interests. Commodity-specific and country-specific measures are undertaken keeping in view the domestic and international economic situations. Among other measures, the Government of India has extended credit lines of $ 55 million to the Central Asian Republics.

Revised IPRS for Indian Engineering Exporters

2002. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to implement a revised International Price Reimbursement Scheme (IPRS) for allowing supplies of iron and stock products to Indian engineering exporters to be treated as deemed exports;

(b) if so, the broad features of the new scheme; and

(c) the amount of claims under IPRS still pending owing to insufficient funds and the impact of the new scheme on the small and medium sized engineering exporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHAIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) International Price Reimbursement Scheme (IPRS) stands abolished with effect from 1st April, 1994. A new Scheme called Engineering Products Export (Replenishment of Iron & Steel Intermediates) Scheme has been notified on 1.3.95. Under this Scheme, the engineering goods exporters especially those in the small and medium sector can domestically source their iron and steel requirements at prices comparable to international prices from the steel producers, who are entitled to duty free import of their inputs under the Scheme.

The total value of claims pending under IPRS as on 13.3.95 was Rs. 187.20 crores.

Deemed Exports

2003. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are studying the possibility .of granting the same status to deemed exports with physical exports;

(b) whether such a study has been done by any research today;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the extent of deemed exports in .993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The Government is not aware of any such study.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) On account of deemeds exports in the year 1993-94, an amount of Rs. 317.00 crores was utilised for grant of incentives as per EXIM Policy.

पंजाब और हरियाणा के उत्कृष्ट कोटि के गेहूं का निर्यात

2004. प्रो॰ राम बख्श सिंह वर्मा: क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पंजाब और हरियाणा में उत्पन्न उत्कृष्ट कोटि के गेहूं का विदेशों में निर्यात किया जा रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन देशों के नाम क्या हैं; और

(ग) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान किन-किन देशों को कितनी मात्रा में गेहूं का निर्यात किया गया और उससे कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित हुई?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० चिदम्बरम्): (क) से (ग) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान डुरुम और गैर-डुरुम गेहूं की निर्यात की गई मात्रा निम्नानुसार है:—

मूल्य—करोड़ रु०
मात्रा—मी० टन

मद	1991-92		1992-93		1993-94	
	मात्रा	मूल्य	मात्रा	मूल्य	मात्रा	मूल्य
डुरुम गेहूं	5146	1.30	0	0.0	39	0.02
गैर-डुरुम गेहूं	653104	143.08	36749	10.21	351	0.18
योग	658250	144.38	36749	10.21	390	0.20

(स्रोत: डीजीसीआई एंड एस, कलकत्ता)

जिन देशों को गेहूं का निर्यात किया गया, उनमें प्रमुख हैं—क्यूबा, मलेशिया, नेपाल, सिंगापुर, श्रीलंका, बंगलादेश, जोर्डन, कोरिया, लोकतांत्रिक जनवादी गणराज्य, माल्दीव, फिलिपीन्स, सूडान तथा संयुक्त राज्य अमीरात।

उपर्युक्त निर्यातों के देशवार ब्यौरे भारत के विदेश व्यापार के आंकड़े (प्रमुख वस्तु एवं देश) के नियमित मासिक प्रकाशन में उपलब्ध हैं, जिसकी प्रतियां संसद पुस्तकालय में उपलब्ध हैं।

देश से निर्यातों के क्षेत्रवार आंकड़े नहीं रखे जाते हैं।

Coffee Production in Andhra Pradesh

2005. SHRI YEERA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantity of coffee produced in Andhra Pradesh in 1992-93, 1993-94 and expected production in 1994-95;

(b) what is the estimated quantity of coffee that can be produced in Andhra Pradesh, using suitable land in agency areas of Khammam, West Godaveri District, East Godwaveri District and Visakhapatnam; and

(c) steps proposed to encourage coffee production in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a)

Year	Production
1992-93	835 tonnes
1993-94	1231 tonnes
1994-95	1000 tonnes (estimated)

(b) The suitable areas for coffee cultivation is about 1,040 hectares as per survey conducted by Coffee Board. The estimated production using this land would be 2000 tonnes per annum.

(c) Under the 8th Plan, efforts are being made to expand coffee cultivation in non-traditional areas including Andhra Pradesh. As a part of this effort, the Board has established a Regional Research Station at R.V. Nagar, extension centres at Chintappali (two) and Araku Valley, Regional office at Visakhapatnam and a coffee demonstration farm at Minumuluru.;

Exempting Commodities from Purview of Inspection of EIC

2006. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some commodities have bear exempted from the purview of inspection of Export Inspection Council during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The list of items brought under compulsory pre-shipment inspection is under constant review. As a result of such review, the following commodities have been taken out of the purview of compulsory pre-shipment inspection under the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963 (22 of 1963) during the last three years;

(a) Fish Meal

(b) The following seven varieties of dried fish:

(i) Spratts/Anchovis (ii) Kooney (Jawla), (iii) Prawns without shell, (iv) Prawns with sheel (kardi), (v) Shark, (vi) Dried Bombay Duck (vii) Laminated Bombay Duck.

American Experts' views on India's Internal Policies for Development

2007. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Ground reealities unchanged in India—says American Express" as reported in the 'Statesman', Calcutta dated the 6th March, 1995;

(b) whether it is a fact that visits of American officials have been tending more to a shift of internal policies, than extending cooperation for India's development;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have not worked out to check the unbalances; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Marine Exports

2008. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total marine exports from India during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) whether there has been fall in the export of marine products; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to increase the exports of marine products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The total marine exports from India during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 has been as follows:—

Year	Qty. (M. tons)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1991-92	171820	1375.89
1992-93	209025	1768.56
1993-94	243960	2503.62

(b) The Yearly export of marine products both in terms of quantity and value has generally been increasing.

(c) Does not arise.

Licensing of Export Houses

2009. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many categories of Export Houses have been licensed by Government;

(b) what is the total number of export houses under different categories recognised, Statewise;

(c) what the total export by the export houses during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(d) whether any cases of misuse of the benefits given to exports houses have been reported;

(e) if so, what action has been taken so far; and

(f) how many export houses have been de-recognised on this count?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) As per the criteria fixed under para 137 of the Exim Policy status certificates are awarded to exporters designating them as Export Houses, Trading Houses, Star Trading Houses and Super Star Trading Houses.

(b) The total number of Export Houses under different categories (Statewise) as on 20.3.95 is given in Annexure. (See *Appendix* 173, *Annexure No.* 47).

(c) According to information furnished by Federation of Indian Export Organisation, the total export made by Export Houses/Trading Houses-Star Trading Houses-super Star Trading Houses is as under:—

1992-93	Rs. 34726 Crores
1993-94	Rs. 45026 Crores
1994-95 (April-Sept.)	Rs. 23500 Crores

(d) to (f) Three cases where misuse of benefits was mad by Export Houses were reported. Two firms out of the three have been debarred as per provision of the Import Control Order 1955 and their cases have also been handed-over to CBI, While in the third case a Show Cause Notice for debarment has been issued by this directorate and also their case has been handed-over to CBI for investigation.

Supply of Imported Sugar to FCI by MMTC

2010. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation has supplied the imported sugar to Food Corporation of India for Public distribution system; and

(b) if so, the rate per tonne at which the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation has imported the sugar and supplied to the Food Corporation of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The average price of sugar imported by MMTC and sold to FCI on high seas basis works out to around US $ 383 per tonne C&F. In addition, in terms of extent procedure, FCI is to pay MMTC overhead/service charges @ 1.2% of CIF cost of each cargo.

Joint Venture with Vietnam and Signapore

2011. SHRI RAJU BHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during Prime Minister's visit to Vietnam and Singapore and thereafter joint ventures were signed with Vietnamese and Signapore enterpreneurs;

(b) if so,the details thereof, indicating, the. total investments undertaken by entrepreneurs from the two countries; and

(c) how far the ceiling of 5 million, that an Indian can invest in an overseas project has curbed these investments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, During the Prime Minister's visit to Vietnam and Singapore and thereafter several Joint Venture agreements have been signed between Indian and Foreign corporate entities. The details and indicated in the enclosed statements I to III (see below).

(c) There is no ceiling of 5 million on Indian overseas investment.

Statement-I

MOUs/Agreement Signed during the visit of PM to Vietnam (Total Value: US $ 158 million)

Approximately

SI. No.	Particulars of MOUs etc.	Indian Party	Vietnamese Party
1.	Transmission tower manufacturing and turnkey Transmission line Value: US $ 7 million	The KEC Internaltion	Cam Phay Mechanical Factory
2.	Joint Venture Engineering workshop on sugar Machinery Value: US $ 5 million	KCP Ltd.	Vinasugar-II
3.	Assembly of Railway Coaches Value US $ 18 million	RITES	Vietnam National Railway
4.	Generation of Power and fertilizer from municipal wastes in 1. Hanoi (US $ IS million) and 2. HCMC (US $ 45 million)	Western packages India Ltd.	Hanoi Urban Environment Co. and Deptt, of Public works, HCMC
5.	Setting up Sugar Mill Value: US $ 18 million	Value: $ 18 million Nagariuna Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd.	Vinasugar-2
6.	Automotive tyre project Vlaue: US $ 50 million	CEAT	CICHEMCO

Statement-II

MOU's/'Agreements Signed during the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister to Singapore (7—9 September, 1994) (Total Value: USS 800 million)

1. *Aqua farm:* Joint Venturebetween Blue Bay Marine Fc eafoods Pte. Ltd., Singapore.
2. *Third Country Trade and Investment.* Collaboration agreement between Greaves Limited, Bombay and Pacific Greaves Pte. Ltd., Singapore.
3. *Ship Breaking:* Joint Venture between M/s Ganpatrai Jaigopal, Bombay and Thakral Investments Holdings Pte. Ltd., Singapore and Natsteel Trade International Pte. Ltd., Singapore.
4. *LPG Terminal:* Joint Development Agreement between the Western India Group and M/s Sembawang Engineering, Singapore.
5. *Private Bank:* Joint Venture between 20th Century Finance Corporation and Kephinance Investment Pte. Ltd., Singapore.
6. *Mini Township:* Agreement between Growth Techno Projects New Delhi and Construction Technology, Singapore.
7. *Warehousing:* Joint Venture between Newsprint Trading & sales Corporation, Delhi and CWT Distribution Ltd. LED Singapore Consortium.
8. *Restaurant.* Joint Venture between Pamnani Foods Pte. Ltd. and Inno Pacific Holdings, Singapore.

9. *Value-Added Network Services:* Joint Venture between M/s Mahindra and Mahindra and Singapore Network Services.

10. *Office complex:* Joint Venture between M/s Unitech and A Singapore Consortium.

11. *Bakery.* Joint Venture between Kwality Ice Cream Group, India and QAF Ltd., Singapore.

12. *Telecommunication Equipment.* Agreement between ITI Communications and Comedge Communications.

Statement-III

MOU's Signed between Indian and Singapore parties subsequent to the visit of our PM to Singapore
(Total Value:—US $ 200 million)

1. *Development of Technology Park (Gurgaon):* Singapore Consortium and Haryana Urban Development Authority (HUDA).

2. *Manufacture of Tele-communications Equipments:* Intraco Ltd. of Singapore with Godrej and Boyce Manufacturing Co. Ltd. and Double Kingdom DA Ltd. of Hongkong (to form a joint venture company)

3. *Aquacuiture Project (Naidupeta, Mallam in AP):* Asia Pacific Seafoods Pte. Ltd. of Singapore with Kaveni Fisheries Ltd. of India.

4. *Terminal for storage of petroleum products (Paradeep).* Agio Countertrade Pte. Ltd. of Singapore with Vitol Group of India.

5. *Solutions Systems Integrations and Network:* Singapore Computer Systems Ltd. (SCS) with Tata Elexsi (India).

Statement

Redefining Terms of Reference of 'Extreme Focus Group' Comparative statement on Export Growth of extreme Focus Products 1992-93 & 1993-94

	No. Of Products		Averag Growth rate (%)		% Share of the Group in total	
	1992-93	1993-94	1992-93	1993-94	1992-93	1993-94
1. Negative	12	5	-13.41	-33.32	23.9	1.7
2. < 10	8	4	7.44	7.67	67.3	35.2
3. 10 < 15	1	4	13.27	12.05	1.9	11.9
4. 15 < 20	1	7	15.68	17.61	1.4	20.5
5. 20 25	—	4	—	21.49	—	16.0
6. 25 < 30	—	—	—		—	—
7. 30 & Above	9	7	79.66	39.65	5.5	14.7
TOTAL	31	31	3.95	14.99	100.0	100.0

Redefining Terms of Reference of 'Extreme Focus Group

2012. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to redefine the term of reference concerning 'extreme focus group';

(b) whether the concept of 'extreme focus' has been a successful initiative;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) what are the proposals regarding expanding the items under 'extreme focus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details on growth of exports of the 'extreme focus products' are given in the Statement. *(See* below)

(d) Currently, there are no proposals for expanding the number of items under 'extreme focus'.

Decontrolling Coffee Sales and Exports

2013. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to decontrol coffee sales and export; and

(b) if so, what is the rationale thereof and by when the decision is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) A decision on the proposal to further decontrol of coffee sales has not been taken by the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Permitting free sale of coffee to coffee growers

2014. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allow coffee producers total free sale of coffee;

(b) what is the present system in this regard;

(c) what changes are envisaged;

(d) whether it is a fact that consumers would have to pay much higher prices for coffee; and

(e) if. so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) A decision of the proposal to allow coffee producers total free sale of coffee has not been taken by Government.

(b) According to the present system of coffee marketing, the growers are expected to pool 50% of their produce with the Coffee Board. This coffee is cured and released to the market through a! single auction system. The growers can sell the remaining 50% either in the domestic market or in the international market.

(c) A decision has not been taken by the Govt.

(d) and (e) The price of coffee is influenced by international movements in price, as well a s the supply — demand balance prevailing.

Agri-Expo and Ahara 95 Fains

2015. SHRI HIPHEI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE he pleased to state:

(a) whether Agri-expo and Ahara 95 have been organised in New Delhi in recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether foreign countries participated in these fairs;

(d) if so, the names of such countries;

(e) whether some targets and objectives were fixed by the organisers;

(f) whether these have been achieved; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Agri-expo and Ahara'95 fairs were organised by India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from March 8-14, 1995. While Agri-expo highlighted the Agriculture and allied sector, Ahara highlighted the food processing sector.

(c) and (d) In the Agri-expo'95 the Netherlands, Israel, USA and Nepal participated. In Ahara'95 France, Germany, Italy, Hongkong, U.K., Singapore, USA, U.A.E, and Finland took part.

(e) to (g) The main objective of these fairs was to project the capability of India and other participating countries in the Agriculture and Food processing sectors